**Minutes for Birchwood Parks and Natural Resource Committee, Special Budget Meeting**

**12-03-2012**

**Present:** John Lund, John McCormick, Bea Krinke, Sara Nephew, Barb Carson, Katie Cavanor

 For the second half: Jim Ecker

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Agenda: Review of Parks Committee Proposed Budget/Work Plan for 2013

Discussion of the budget included clarification of items belonging in special parks fund and those for the general budget. Committee discussed need for a comprehensive contract to maintain parks. This would include spring and fall clean up in parks and lake easements, regular mowing, weed whipping and weed control.
John Lund would like to see a solid plan, with numbers, for weed control in Tighe Schmitz Park. This would lead to a plan for managing the turf of the soccer field and the granite path. There is no current consensus on how, or if, the path should be maintained.

Elm easement: A resident has complained about the state of the Elm spillway (weeds and run-off control); John will talk to the DNR in January. No special dollars were added to the budget for the Elm easement, but $675 was added to the general budget for weed removal for all of the easements.

Tennis Court: Suggestion made to remove the Cottonwood tree that is interfering with the court surface. Current abatement measures are not fixing the problem.

Suggestion to work with scout troupes on removal of invasive species (buckthorn, garlic mustard, etc) in Birchwood Parks and easements.

Per Barb Carson: Adult volunteers removed buckthorn from Curt Feistner Preserve; this cleared access to the lake.

John Lund moved to accept the proposed budget as outlined by Katie, John McCormick seconded. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Bea Krinke for Debbie Harrod