

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020 IN THE MAPLE ROOM OF HILTON GARDEN INN HOTEL, 26225 N. RIVERWOODS BOULEVARD, METTAWA, ILLINOIS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sheldon called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll the following persons were:

Present: Chairman Sheldon and Members Bohm and Pink

Absent: None

Chairman Sheldon declared a quorum present.

Also, Present: Village Administrator, Bob Irvin; Village Clerk, Sandy Gallo; Village Engineer, Scott Anderson and Trustee Towne

Attendees: Trustee Towne, Jess Ray, Karen Carruthers and Mike Ruppe

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY MEETING

Meeting minutes of January 8, 2020 were reviewed. Member Pink submitted some minor changes to be included. It was moved by Member Bohm and seconded by Member Pink that the meeting minutes be approved and placed on file. The motion was carried.

D. DISCUSS STEWARDSHIP FOR OASIS PARK AND BRADLEY NATURE AREAS

Chairman Sheldon said she reached out to Trustee Brennan regarding the renaming of Oasis Park to inquire details on Barry Maclean's tree contribution. Chairman Sheldon has not heard from Barry Maclean to date. Chairman Sheldon said she will follow-up with Barry Maclean on the final location regarding his bench placement.

Chairman Sheldon asked Member Bohm if he would consider planting some trees at Oasis Park in the spring time. Chairman Sheldon said she would like to consider revisiting Poul's submitted proposal. Member Bohm replied his preference for placement of new trees would be on the top of berm to screen the Oasis Park lights for the residents. Member Bohm added he would also consider reallocating the tree amount to be applied for seeding the berm. Chairman Sheldon mentioned if new trees are being planted for the bench dedication, she would prefer to seed afterwards. Member Pink requested the soil to be tested prior to seeding.

Village Administrator Irvin provided a summary page for the two stewardship proposals the Committee received. Village Administrator Irvin pointed out that both vendors indicated payment was due prior to the work being completed.

Trustee Towne said the neighbors to the south of the Oasis Park spoke about what plantings they would like to be considered. As a result, they should be part of the planning for the plantings.

Member Bohm said the stewardship bid needs to be broken down furthermore detailing, the style of seeding (drilling or spreading), soil preparation, season of seeding and other matters. Member Bohm said he would like to meet with the contractors individually to ask specific questions regarding their proposal to better understand their details. Member Bohm mentioned he likes how Native Landscaping addressed the berm as a separate treatment.

Chairman Sheldon said she saw Oasis Park showed some good growth coming along. Chairman Sheldon added the Village does not want to have a random soil company without following-up with the same company to provide the seeds proposed.

Chairman Sheldon suggested to meet with the two vendors one more time to have our questions answered. Member Bohm agreed with the additional meeting. Chairman Sheldon shared her concern of not getting a 3-year plan proposal, the plantings and treatments will need more than 1 or 2 years to show results.

Village Administrator Irvin reminded the Committee that ILM has not submitted their renewal contract for Whippoorwill Park. Chairman Sheldon said their contract expires in March. The Bradley Nature area is a well-established area as a result of Tallgrass work. Member Bohm asked Village Administrator Irvin to attend the two vendor meetings. Village Administrator Irvin mentioned the earliest this work can commence would be in April after the recommendation has been approved at the March Board meeting.

E. UPDATE ON THE VILLAGE BERM BIDS

Village Engineer Scott Anderson said James Anderson sent out an addendum to the bidders due to a potential wetland area found at this location. The earliest a contractor could start will be July 1st. Bids will be opened next Wednesday. Chairman Sheldon mentioned she would like to move this matter onto Public Works Committee.

Trustee Towne mentioned after looking at this site this area can be mowed. This location has several dead trees and a blocked drainage that needs to be cleared. Trustee Towne recommended after clearing this lot the Committee should then consider the berm location. Member Bohm mentioned he did not want to create any expenses to clear this corner. Village Administrator Irvin indicated if the Village clears this location, it will be an expense to the Village.

Chairman Sheldon asked Village Engineer if he can obtain a proposal from Dunlap to clear this corner lot. Chairman Sheldon commented she would like to remove this project from the list. Member Pink agreed with the Chairman. Member Bohm suggested to move forward with the opening of the bids and decide next month their next action plan. The Committee agreed to review the bids next month.

F. DISCUSS MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ITEMS FOR FY2020-2021 BUDGET

Chairman Sheldon questioned the right-of-way pricing from Dunlap for Whippoorwill Park for \$200. Village Administrator Irvin commented the mowing for this park was removed from the contract due to the unsatisfaction of their work. The mowing total consists of last year's expenses from Perfect Cut and the maintenance is part of TruGreen's 3-year agreements for treatments. Chairman Sheldon remarked that Perfect Cut has not submitted all of his mowing invoices at Whippoorwill Park from last year. Chairman Sheldon said the cost to maintain Whippoorwill Park should start reducing as it begins to establish itself.

Member Bohm commented he would like to see the stone walkway be extended at the homestead site. Member Bohm also indicated he would like to see the buckthorn cleared on the corner of Riverwoods and Bradley Road. Member Bohm would like to add some plantings on the east side of the trail and by the vernal pond. Village Administrator Irvin commented at the last Committee meeting a question was asked on how much had been spent of clearing trees, \$35,500 in the last 3-years using Perfect Cut. This corner is owned by Home Owners Associations. Of the accumulated expense \$12,500 was done on the Village property. Village Administrator Irvin said to clarify the Village's right regarding the trail area, the Village did receive conservation easement over the property in 1998. This easement allows the Village to have the trail and perform the required maintenance. The Enclave subdivision also owns this land. Chairman Sheldon said she would like to receive permission from Enclave's HOA prior to clearing the corners buckthorn. Member Bohm commented the west side has already been done. Village Administrator Irvin added the clearing of this buckthorn has not been included in the budget. This corner open space helps Enclave achieve credit for their lot coverage. Trustee Towne mentioned he would like the Village to own this corner lot. Member Bohm asked if the Village could consider purchasing this lot with a 99-year lease. Village Administrator Irvin said he will discuss this matter with the Village Attorney.

A motion was made to purchase up to \$2,500 of plugs for a spring order to be placed in the vernal pond. The motion was made by Chairman Sheldon and seconded by Member Bohm. The motion was carried. Chairman Sheldon will follow-up with Midwest Ground cover for the plug's proposal.

Village Administrator Irvin mentioned the budget numbers will need to be finalized at the March Committee meeting.

G. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR TO THE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION, AND IF APPROVED, BE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Member Bohm said he received a proposal from Fast Signs for the restoration sign to be posted at Oasis Park. The sign will cost \$144.72. The size is 3x2, metal frame and it reads from both sides. Trustee Towne asked if Oasis Park could be added onto the sign. Village Administrator Irvin said the current logo would allow the restoration sign to be used in different locations.

A motion was made to approve the Fast Sign restoration sign for \$144.72. The motion was moved by Member Bohm and seconded by Chairman Sheldon. The motion carried.

Village Administrator Irvin commented ComEd has announced its Green Region program for pollinator gardens. Last year, the Village proposed \$18,000 project at Whippoorwill Park to receive half of the funding. The Committee agreed to submit the same application for this year.

Village Administrator Irvin asked if Barry Maclean's bench location was finalized. Chairman Sheldon added it will be placed by the pollinator garden.

H. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Chairman Sheldon and seconded by Member Bohm to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 pm. The motion was carried.
Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk