

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2021 IN THE COTTONWOOD ROOM B

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bohm called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll the following persons were:

Present: Chairman Bohm and Members Clark and Pink

Absent: None

Chairman Bohm declared a quorum present.

Also, on the call: Village Clerk, Sandy Gallo; Village Engineer, Scott Anderson; Resident, Amy Weiland; Trustees Armstrong and Towne

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE MEETING

Meeting minutes of June 9, 2021 were reviewed. It was moved by Member Pink and seconded by Member Clark that the regular meeting minutes be approved and be placed on file. The motion was carried.

D. DISCUSS THE LOCATION AND THE TYPE OF TREE FOR THE CHICAGO TREE REGION COMMUNITIES' INITIATIVE PROGRAM

Chairman Bohm said the Village has committed to planting a tree for this program. Chairman Bohm proposed a redbud tree to be planted later in the fall. The tree placement being considered is at the south end of the trail at Maclean Preserve at Oasis Park closer to Hamilton Estates subdivision.

A motion was made to plant a redbud tree at the south end trail at Maclean Preserve at Oasis Park. The motion was made by Member Clark and seconded by Member Pink. The motion was carried.

E. UPDATE ON THE VILLAGE LOT BERM LOCATED ON ROUTE 60 AND ST. MARYS ROAD

Chairman Bohm stated the berm is currently being built by Carl DiTomasso. Village Engineer Scott Anderson added DiTomasso was not approved to clear the area until Stormwater Management Commission had verified the locations of the wetlands. Village Engineer Scott Anderson added he is currently waiting to hear the outcome from SMC of the small wetland location that has been disturbed. Two years ago, SMC found a small wetland on the west end of the lot. Mr. DiTomasso has since covered this wetland. Village Engineer Scott Anderson stated the addendum in his contract stated that the contractor could not start until all permits were obtained.

F. UPDATE ON THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE HAMILTON ESTATES PROPERTY ON RIVERWOOD BLVD

Chairman Bohm said the Village has an agreement with the HOA to maintain the trail and the sides along Bradley Road. However, the Village is not permitted to remove any of the buckthorn found

in the center nor can restoration be completed. Last April, the Committee began exploring taking full ownership of this land in order to fully restore the area. The Village Attorney reviewed the documents and indicated the HOA is able to transfer the ownership to the Village in order for us to restore the open space. Resident, Larry Falbe stated during the development of the subdivision an emphasis was placed on the land to remain as open space owned by the HOA in order to allow these property owners to have smaller lots. The HOA's concern includes if the open space ownership is transferred it will create a mitigation issue when property owners try to sell their home. Chairman Bohm asked the Committee to consider a few options; leave the land as is and maintain the trail area, get the HOA to agree to transfer the land to the Village with agreement that property sales are not associated to this open space and the last option the Village did not approve. The last option encompassed the Village to sign a stewardship contract and restore the area. Village Engineer Scott Anderson asked if the Village would consider an easement conservation for the land. Chairman Bohm responded the Village would have no control over an easement they are restoring. Chairman Bohm said he will connect with the Village Attorney and this matter will be further discussed at the next Committee meeting. Member Pink asked if the HOA would grant the Village an easement. Chairman Bohm said yes. Trustee Towne added if the Village signed the stewardship to maintain this area, this can result in other home owners requesting the same behavior.

G. DISCUSS THE METTAWA AND LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE TRAIL MAPS POSTED ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

Chairman Bohm indicated he received a request from a resident for a map to be created to indicate the Village trails, forest preserve trails and where these trails intersect, 3-4 locations. Chairman Bohm said he will work with Teska to see if they can create such a map to be posted on the Village website. The Committee was in agreement to research this project based on cost.

H. DISCUSS TRAIL SAFETY ALONG BRADLEY ROAD AND THE OASIS SERVICE ROAD NORTH CORNER

Chairman Bohm said he met with residents Holly Hirsch/Roy Bollhoffer (707 Bradley Road) to address a concern they had along the trail on Bradley Road. The two residents indicated the trail corner located at Bradley Road and the service drive road experienced heavy traffic and they were worried for the walkers. Chairman Bohm measured the north corner of Bradley Road the Oasis service drive and recommends moving the trail over 4 feet to add a split rail fence. Village Engineer Scott Anderson asked if the Committee wanted 4-feet of the west side of the trail to be moved to the east-side. Chairman Bohm said yes, and he would like to add a split rail fence to prevent any parking along this road. Village Engineer Scott Anderson stated this construction is considered new and therefore the estimate will be drafted under prevailing wages. Chairman Bohm asked Village Engineer Scott Anderson to provide a sketch and a cost estimate for the next meeting.

Trustee Armstrong commented the property owners' fence along the Oasis service drive is covered with leaves and it creates an obstruction for those walkers crossing the road. While walking north to south along the trail on Bradley Road, that corner fence impacts the visibility to see a car coming down from the Oasis service drive. Chairman Bohm said he will follow-up with the property owners regarding the Committee's decision about moving the trail and address their fence foliage creating a visibility barrier.

I. REVIEW THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION GRANT REPORT FOR THE MACLEAN PRESERVE AT OASIS PARK

Chairman Bohm stated 10-years ago the Village received a grant to complete the restoration of the north end of Maclean Preserve at Oasis Park in the wetlands area. Part of the grant included a draft of a 10-year maintenance plan. Chairman Bohm indicated the items listed on the SMC report are being maintained under the Pizzo and Associates, Inc contract.

Chairman Bohm stated for the next Committee meeting Pizzo and Associates will be attending to provide a park update.

J. DISCUSS ADDITIONAL WATERING BY POUL’S NURSERY INC. AT THE MACLEAN PRESERVE AT OASIS PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,800

Chairman Bohm indicated he would like the following watering proposal from Poul’s Nursery to be approved in order to support the vegetation during the dry season.

A motion was made to approve the proposal from Poul’s Nursery in the amount of \$1,800, if needed. The motion was moved by Member Clark and seconded by Member Pink. The motion was carried.

Chairman Bohm stated Poul’s Nursery will also be replacing any dead trees at the Maclean Preserve at Oasis Park in the fall.

K. DISCUSS ADDITIONAL TREE PLANTINGS AT THE MACLEAN PRESERVER AT OASIS PARK

Chairman Bohm stated he would like to plant two groups of five evergreens on the top of the berm as a trial planting. Member Pink indicated her concern was the quality of the soil on the berm. Deerpath Farms has evergreens on their berm and they have shown great growth. Chairman Bohm said he will obtain a few proposals for eastern arborvitae and redcedar plantings to be done this fall.

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

M. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Chairman Bohm and seconded by Member Clark to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. The motion was carried.

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk