

Parks Committee Minutes Village of Shorewood Hills

Monday, June 13th 2016
Village Hall – 810 Shorewood Blvd

1. Meeting called to order at 5:34 pm by committee chair Anne Readel
 - **Roll Call:** Members Present: Anne Readel, Georgene Stratman, Nancy Heiden, Sue Denholm and David Boutwell. Others Present: Village Forester Corey George and guest Bernie Williams (DNR Plant Pest and Disease Specialist).
 - **Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** Confirmed meeting was properly posted.
 - **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the April 11th 2016 meeting were approved with minor changes.

2. **Invasive Species Management** – Bernie Williams from the Wisconsin DNR was in attendance.
 - **Asian Jumping Worm** – Bernie shared best management practices for controlling the spread of invasive Jumping Worms. They are becoming widespread in Dane county. She requests Village residents to be on the lookout for this new invasive. More information on knowing what to look for is available on the DNR website. In addition, Jumping Worm pamphlets and field guides are available by contacting Corey George, Village Forester.
 - **Narrowleaf Bittercress** – A new “prohibited” plant species, Narrowleaf Bittercress, was recently found in several locations within the Village. This invasive plant proliferates and spreads very quickly to outcompete desirable native vegetation. The DNR is setting up a visit to the Village for a detailed assessment of its spread. Learn more about this plant by visiting the DNR website.
 - **Japanese Knotweed** – This invasive species is spreading rapidly across the State. It presents a major threat to lakeshores and wetlands. Eradication is extremely difficult and spreads easily by moving infested soil. This aggressive invasive is well documented to cause severe damage to home foundations. Help prevent the spread of Japanese Knotweed by learning more on the DNR website.

3. **Post Farm Park Projects:**
 - **Natural Play Area and Wildflower Garden** – The Recreation Committee recently installed several natural play elements from repurposed logs stored in Quarry Park. Overall the play area is well received by Village residents. Unfortunately, the adjacent native wildflower collection and garden has experienced repeated damage. The Parks Committee would like to proceed with an educational sign and protective

fence. Corey George will look into a split rail fence, signage and placement. His findings will be shared with the Post Farm Park play area sub-committee.

The Recreation Committee would also like to add a swing set at Post Farm Park. The area under consideration is in the lawn above the tennis courts. The Parks Committee would like to see a more detailed swing set plan, including the proposed footprint. With one third of the committee absent, a motion was made and passed that any further discussion on this topic needs to include participation by the full Parks Committee membership.

- **Memorial Benches** – Manufacturing of three rustic stone benches is complete. The benches will be located adjacent to the pedestrian path overlooking the east end of the Community Garden. Installation is underway.
- **Planting Projects** – Several diseased and partially decayed trees were removed along the Harvard Drive pedestrian pathway in February. Stump removal occurred in April. Tree replacement and surface restoration work has been completed.

Native plantings were recently added to a disturbed soil area along the new concrete sidewalk adjacent to Marshal Court. Early results look good.

4. **Parks Encroachment Letter** – The Village Forester and Parks Committee members report no resident feedback has been received since a letter was distributed in April. Corey George will walk park perimeters to assess changes made by adjacent residents.
5. **The Boulevard (3310 University Ave.) Project** – The Parks Committee visited the upcoming construction site to familiarize themselves with current plantings and landscape features. Corey George will look into the possibility of moving a large Ginko tree to another location in the Village.
6. **Resident Input** – No resident guests were in attendance.
7. **Future Agenda Items** – No future items were presented.
8. **Forester's Report** – The report will be available for review at a later time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm