

Parks Committee Minutes Village of Shorewood Hills

Monday, September 12th 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, David Boutwell, Kathie Brock, Nancy Heiden, Roma Lenehan. Others Present: Village Forester Corey George, Village Resident John Voegeli.
- **Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** Confirmed meeting was properly posted.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the August 17th 2016 meeting were approved.

2. **McKenna Park:**

Village resident Sarah Goldenberg (3415 Edgehill Parkway) made several suggestions to Anne Readel and Corey George regarding McKenna Park improvements. She would like the Village to consider adding a pedestrian friendly entrance gate and entrance pathway at the top of the maintenance road, along with a lakeside bench.

Village resident John Voegeli was in attendance representing the Waterfront Committee. Several issues of concern have arisen from increased Boat House usage. A number of non-resident, for-profit groups are now using the Boat House as a scuba diving launch site. Some users exhibit responsible use, while others are thought to be less respectful. The Parks Committee discussed enforcement of a formalized registration process and user fee policy. A usage policy was developed several years ago and requires a review at a future meeting. In the meantime, the Parks Committee would like to proceed with adding a trash barrel, “No Glass” signage, and explore Village liability for posting “Swim at Your Own Risk.”

Karl Frantz and DPW chief John Mitmoen will make a site visit on Wednesday, September 13th to review the issues and requests above. Placement of a repurposed bike rack from the Dental Health Associates will also be looked into.

3. **Old Middleton Road:**

The strip of vegetation immediately west of the Village salt shed on Old Middleton Road is in need of maintenance. There are several dead or dying trees that require removal and the underbrush is predominantly buckthorn and other invasive species. The site is also a hot spot for homeless people looking for an isolated shelter. This area sits between the Village maintained sidewalk along Old Middleton Rd and bike path along the rail road corridor.

Mr. George has received an estimate to cut, remove, and grind stumps of the larger hazard trees. He also plans to get an estimate from Good Oak LLC to treat the cut brush and reseed the area with native grasses and perennials.

4. Emerald Ash Borer Treatments:

The Parks Committee considers the expense to treat and remove dead and dying Ash trees to be outside of park funds. In addition to costs required for management of emerald ash borer, the Village faces significant expenses for rotational pruning, tree removals and replanting.

The Parks Committee agreed to undertake the following action steps prior to the October Parks meeting. Mr. George will create a cost estimate for Village Administration. Ms. Readel and Mr. George will draft a one-page recommendation to the Finance Committee regarding an Urban Forestry Utility to help fund EAB management and other Forestry expenses necessary to ensure a healthy community forest. Mr. Boutwell will draft a motion for consideration by the Parks Committee to adopt a Forestry Special Charge to recover Village costs.

5. Harvard Drive One-Way (University Station Clinics) Restoration:

Additional cutting and removal of invasive species is planned for September or October.

6. Resident Input:

No further input at hand.

7. Future Agenda Items:

2017 Bird City renewal, Bird City event speaker, non-resident boathouse use policy, and raingarden maintenance.

8. Forester's Report: Mr. George presented the Committee with Forestry reports from June, July and August 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm