

Village of Shorewood Hills
Parks Committee
Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
Tuesday, September 26, 2023 - 5:30pm
Location: Heiden Haus 3100 Harvard Drive

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Carol Barford called the meeting of the Parks Committee to order at 5:30pm.
 - a. **Roll Call:** Present, in addition to Barford, were David Boutwell, Roma Lenehan, Jan Tymorek, Nancy Heiden, Kathie Brock, and Garden Club Liaison Mary Janet Wellensiek. Jeremy Rogers was absent-unexcused. Also in attendance were Village Forester Adam Lohrmann and Village Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Chrissy Kahl.
 - b. **Note compliance with open meeting law:** Kahl confirmed the meeting had been properly posted.
2. **Public Comment and Communication:** None.
3. **Approve minutes from July 25, 2023 Parks Committee Meeting:** Heiden moved, seconded by Boutwell to approve the July 25, 2023 minutes. Motion carried.
4. **Monthly Forester's Report:** Lohrmann reviewed the report that was provided in the meeting packet. Discussion included: the tree inventory has been completed (does not include trees on Blackhawk property); the Forestry Management Plan outline has been started; tree treatments for spongy moth eggs needs to be done soon-need to plan now for funding and communication to residents.
5. **Chair's report on budget requests for the Forestry Department (no discussion):** Barford gave an overview. Tree treatments are all due next year. For the budget \$60,000-\$65,000 will be needed. Move new tree stock from the regular budget to capital budget of \$25,000 – Administrator Eveland is reviewing.
6. **Report and discussion of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP):** Boutwell presented. Information provided included: we are at the mid-point of survey results, there has been high participation. Results show that natural environment is a top priority, lake access at McKenna park, and maintaining natural areas. Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) will draft the CORP in October, Recreation Committee will review in November, in December there will be additional public comment, Public Hearing in January, Village Board review and approval in February, DNR has final approval.
7. **Discussion of communication with residents about the Village's urban forest:** Barford gave a brief introduction. Lohrmann said communication to residents should encourage reporting of spongy moth. Dane County has a site for reporting that Lohrmann has access to retrieve results. The first step is to make residents aware – we can go through the Garden Club to alert residents to watch for a flyer. The second step is to send out an informational flyer with pictures, FAQ's and the reporting link to Dane County.

Brock left the meeting at 6:25pm

8. Announcements, questions, and/or consideration items for future agendas (no discussion or action to be taken under this item):

- Black Spruce tree at Four Corners Park
- State Heritage Oak tree listing
- Bird City Information

9. Next meeting date: Tuesday, October 24, 2023

10. Adjourn: Heiden moved, seconded by Tymorek to adjourn the meeting at 6:32pm.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chrissy Kahl
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

There is currently a spongy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) infestation in Madison, which was especially severe in the south and west parts of the city during summer of 2023. This is [partly?] due to recent drought in the region that has both weakened our trees and suppressed the fungal pathogen that normally keeps spongy moth numbers down. Foresters and entomologists expect more spongy moths in 2024.

[Insert pictures of egg masses, caterpillars, moths and infested trees; nice pictures and info here:
<https://daneclimateaction.org/Initiatives/Tree-Canopy/Spongy-Moth>]

Spongy moth infestations can cause significant damage to the urban tree canopy. Our Forestry staff needs your help to combat the spongy moth here in Shorewood Hills!

1. At your home, follow the [UW Extension instructions](#) to remove egg masses and caterpillars from your trees, house and outdoor structures like picnic tables. The instructions vary for different months of the year, according to the moth life cycle. In December through February, spray the egg masses with oil or scrape them off into soapy water.
2. Report egg masses [& caterpillars?] to the Capitol Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) database. This helps all the foresters in Dane County to plan and utilize available resources to fight the moth (including our Forester)! There are [desktop](#) and [mobile](#) versions of the reporting tool.
3. Volunteer to help the Forester get rid of spongy moths on Village trees in our parks and terraces! Contact Adam Lohrmann (alohrmann@shorewood-hills.org).

We prize our trees in the Village. Unfortunately, so does the spongy moth. Please help the Village to win this round!