

**Village of Shorewood Hills  
Parks Committee**  
Meeting Minutes - DRAFT  
Tuesday, October 24, 2023 - 5:30pm  
Location: Virtually via Zoom

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Carol Barford called the meeting of the Parks Committee to order at 5:31pm.
  - a. **Roll Call:** Present, in addition to Barford, were David Boutwell, Roma Lenehan, Jan Tymorek, Nancy Heiden, Kathie Brock, Jeremy Rogers, and Garden Club Liaison Mary Janet Wellensiek. Also in attendance was 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. No members of the public attended.
3. **Approve minutes from September 26, 2023 Parks Committee meeting:** Boutwell moved, seconded by Tymorek to approve the September 26, 2023 meeting minutes. Rogers abstained. Heiden left the meeting at 5:33pm due to technical difficulties (did not vote). Motion carried.

Heiden joined at 5:48pm by going to Brock's home.
4. **Monthly Forester's Report:** No report provided. Barford gave an update which included: LTE Patrick Finnegan will be starting soon and saving the oak tree south of the pool by getting support from the Pool Committee and the Garden Club.
5. **Discussion of communication with residents regarding spongy moth:** Barford gave an overview. Discussion included: an informational blurb for distribution through Nixle, the bulletin, and flyers. Add the link for WI DNR instead of the word "here" in first paragraph. The distribution of flyers would be done by the Parks Committee members.
6. **Discussion regarding climbing in the spruce tree at Four Corners Park:** Discussion included: observations of the tree being used for training purposes; walking or driving around the base of the tree compacts the earth around it; find a way to protect it by fencing, signage or large stones. May need more information to know if climbing on the tree is harmful to the tree, possibly bring in a consultant. Due to MGE working in the area, we may want to ask Forester Lohrmann to stake and tape off the perimeter of the tree.
7. **Discussion of iconic trees in the Village – Wisconsin heritage oak trees and state champion trees:** Barford gave an overview. Discussion included: CARPC did tree inventory along with Forester Lohrmann-may help with identifying iconic trees; possibly create a series about iconic trees for residents, add educational/timely information. Barford asked the committee to come up with a title for the series and frequency/length of series for the next meeting.

**8. Discussion of Bird City activity in 2023 and 2024:** Discussion included: Heiden approached Lisa Gaumnitz who offers a “Save Our Songbirds”, program on Feb 29, 2023; 2023 Bird City certificate should be received soon; how to track bird counts and ways to find data, would need to be ready by end of January for renewal; 2024 resolution for voting at December Board meeting.

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

Announcements:

- Barford-Forestry budget request has gone in. Approval at the November Budget meeting
- CORP – CARPC will present at Rec Committee meeting. Barford or Boutwell will plan on attending

Future Agenda Items:

- Scientific basis for tree root zone protection regarding Four Corners spruce tree
- Potential bird data for Bird City renewal in 2024
- Series of Village tree history pieces for the bulletin (and other media), leading up to VOSH centennial
- David Boutwell’s tree walks

**10. Next meeting date:** Tuesday, November 28, 2023

**11. Adjourn:** Heiden moved, seconded by Tymorek to adjourn the meeting at 6:34pm.  
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chrissy Kahl  
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

**VILLAGE OF SHOREWOOD HILLS**  
**Forestry and Parks**

**Report for October-November 2023: Adam Lohrmann, Forester**

**Overview-** Shorewood Hills Forestry and Parks staff are currently engaged in fall clean-up efforts, as well as continuing with regular tree maintenance and weed management activities. The Forester remains in communication with planners and contractors involved with a variety of construction and utility projects throughout the Village, regularly monitoring progress and photo-documenting impacts to trees and vegetation.

**Special Thanks-** Forestry Assistant Vicente Garcete took the initiative to refurbish and paint the primary entryway sign at Village Hall. Thanks to his care and attention, the restored sign presents a more visually attractive introduction to the Village for drivers and pedestrians on Shorewood Blvd.

Village resident and tree specialist Bruce Allison generously offered training and equipment to study the health of mature trees throughout the Village. The Forestry and Parks staff is grateful for his time and wealth of knowledge.

**Welcome-** The Forestry and Parks Department is pleased to welcome Patrick Finnegan as a new part-time LTE on staff. Patrick earned a degree in forestry from the University of Vermont, and his knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm are a valuable addition to the Village forestry program.

**Tree Maintenance-** Pruning and mulching of trees and shrubs has continued as needed throughout the Village. Several contracted street tree pruning projects are tentatively scheduled for December, pending budget considerations.

**Tree Removals-** One 11" dead/dying linden tree with girdling roots was removed on Tally Ho Lane. One 12" dead maple was removed in Four Corners Park.

**Tree Planting-** One chinkapin oak, two "Regal Prince" english oaks, three tuliptrees, one arborvitae, and one black tupelo were planted in various locations throughout the Village. Additional vacant locations in the Village parks and public spaces will be identified during the winter months in preparation for a spring tree order.

**Rain Gardens-** Fall clean-out of the rain gardens is underway. This process is completed in stages to allow desirable late-blooming perennials the opportunity to flower and disperse seed. Some vegetative material will remain in place through the winter as a refuge for beneficial insects.

**Garden Club-** Fall clean-out of the street medians and beds around Village Hall has begun. Some plant material and seed heads will be left to provide soil nutrients, seed stock, bird feed,

and winter interest. Additionally, the Forestry and Parks Department is continuing to monitor the impacts of recent utility projects on Village garden triangles.

**Seed Collection-** Seed has been collected from a variety of native plant species found in our parks and green spaces, including: coneflower, wild indigo, gray-headed coneflower, prairie blazing star, butterfly milkweed, stiff goldenrod, and little bluestem. This seed will be dispersed in prepared areas of our parks and natural areas.

**Weed Management-** Monitoring and removal of invasive weeds in Village parks and green spaces will continue into the winter. The western section of the Village bike path along the Old Middleton Rd exit ramp is a recent area of focus, targeting burdock, Canada thistle, black locust, etc.

**Of Concern: Spongy Moth-** Forestry and Parks staff are removing spongy moth egg masses throughout the Village. Where manual removal is not feasible, the locations of egg masses are being documented for future implementation of management strategies including trunk wraps and tree injections.