

**Parks Committee Minutes
Village of Shorewood Hills**

Monday, November 13, 2017
Village Hall - 810 Shorewood Boulevard

1. Meeting called to order at 5:37 pm by Dave Boutwell.
 - a. **Roll Call:** Members Present: Kathie Brock, Roma Lenehan, Nancy Heiden, Georgene Stratman, and Dave Boutwell. Members Absent: Anne Readell and Sue Denholm. Others Present: Village Forester Corey George
 - b. **Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** The meeting was properly posted.
 - c. **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes of the August 14, 2017 meeting were approved.
2. **Bird City Status.** Roma Lenehan summarized the Village's Bird City Wisconsin Status. An application needs to be submitted by January 31, 2018 to maintain that status. There was discussion about the value of being a Bird City versus the cost of applying. The recent controversy with the Village ordinance pertaining to "free roaming cats" and the implications that has to Birds and other Wildlife was also discussed. The Committee ultimately decided to submit an application for 2018. The public awareness and education components are valuable to the community and the Bird City events have been well attended.
3. **Forestry Utility.** Dave Boutwell and Roma Lenehan attended the Budget Presentation on November 6, 2017. They summarized the information they learned about the budget and the possibility of a Forestry Utility in 2018. Further discussion was postponed until the Parks Chair is available to update the Committee and a joint meeting with Finance is scheduled.
4. **Scout Shack.** The Forester updated the Committee on the completion of the new Cold Storage building on Old Middleton Road. With its completion, the Scout Shack will no longer be used by the Fire Association to store fireworks equipment. The only things being stored there now are a few tools for the Community Garden (during the winter months), which can be stored elsewhere. The Committee discussed the future of the Scout Shack and recommended that it be removed. There was also discussion about what to do with the site if/when the building is removed. A park pavillion was discussed, but the Committee was not in favor and recommended the site be replanted to reflect the surrounding landscape. The ongoing park restoration in that area has been very successful and there was concern of those efforts being negatively impacted.
5. **Emerald Ash Borer.** The Forester told the Committee that EAB has officially been found in the Village. Samples from private ash trees removed on Blackhawk Drive were collected and EAB was confirmed. This is the first official find in Shorewood Hills. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has been notified and they will let DATCP know as well. The Forester is planning to write an article in the December Village Bulletin to make residents aware. An email blast will also be sent out.
6. **Heiden Haus and Athletic Fields.** Nancy Heiden gave a brief update on the status of the Heiden Haus improvement plans. She indicated the most recent plans are being revised and recommended postponing this discussion to a later date.

- 7. Other Park Projects.** Dave Boutwell and Roma discussed ongoing and future Post Farm Park restoration projects. The Forester discussed recent Forestry and Parks projects. A few neighbors adjacent to Kaiser Woods have requested tree management in Kaiser Woods. Specifically, that the Village remove the invasive Norway maples. The trees are currently shading out many of the native plants and increasing erosion on the steep slopes along Oak Way.
- 8. Resident Input.** None.
- 9. Future Agenda Items.** Bird City application and event. Forestry Utility.
- 10. Forester's Report.** The Forester summarized the recent reports.
- 11. Adjourned.** The Committee adjourned at 7:15 pm.