

Parks Committee Minutes

Village of Shorewood Hills

Monday, April 8, 2019
Village Hall – 810 Shorewood Boulevard

1. Meeting called to order at 5:35.
 - A. **Roll call.** Members present: Nancy Heiden, Georgene Stratman, Roma Lenehan, Kathie Brock. Others present: Village Forester Corey George, Garden Club liaison Mary Janet Wellensiek, Jeremy Rogers, resident.
 - B. **Compliance with Open-Meeting Law.** The meeting was properly posted.
 - C. **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

2. **Future Goals for Parks** – Various goals were put forth:
 - Maintain present canopy—how to do it?
 - Maintain good relationship with all other Village committees and residents
 - Become more active in educational activities relating to parks, nature
 - Make sure regulations in Tree Ordinance are clear and known to all residents
 - Be sure parks are interesting and attractive for young families and children.
 - Programs for kids—gardening, general nature studies.
 - Education: stress value of VOSH trees, greenery. Ensure it will persevere. People move here because of our green surroundings.
 - Recruit and train volunteers. Constant need for new ones, maybe from new apartments?

3. **Arbor Day.** Celebration of Arbor Day will be held on April 25 with activities planned in cooperation with Shorewood School students. Parks committee volunteers are welcome! Work projects will include planting of trees and work on weeding and renewing mulch at previous tree plantings.

4. **Vacancies on Parks Committee.** **Mary Janet Wellensiek** has agreed to be the Garden Club liaison with the Parks Committee. **Jeremy Rogers** expressed his interest and willingness to join the Parks Committee as a new member. The present committee members voted to recommend his appointment pending approval by our incoming new Chair of the committee and the Board of Trustees.

5. **Restoration Projects.**
 - Quarry:** MGE has been replacing the telephone poles along the Quarry boundary. They have agreed to pay for restoration and replanting in the areas affected. Good Oak, LLC has provided an estimate for the restoration work.
 - McKenna Park:** Lots of trees have been removed due to disease, storm damage, poor quality, etc. Corey will hold off on restoration work because major changes are in store for the area—bridge replacement/repair, work on road going down to picnic shelter, concrete work.

Salt Shed: The invasive/undesirable trees and brush have been removed in the area near the shed. Discussion of what to replace them with. Noted need for space for Public Works access, storage, etc. Need easy-to-care-for plantings in this narrow area—native prairie grasses? Perhaps some shrubs?

Post Farm: Restoration work, plantings going well, thanks to Roma Lenehan and Dave Boutwell.

6. Other Parks Projects.

Swale down from the Country Club: Area difficult to maintain as prairie, and is not very visible to anyone. Current goal is to keep weeds down and remove invasives as needed.

Kaiser Woods: Work there to remove invasive species such as garlic mustard, buckthorn, Norway maples. Note made of occasional problems with parking area on Oak Way.

7. Resident Input.

8. Future Agenda Items. Review Parks goals (see #2, above.) Need new subcommittee?

9. Forester's Report.

10. Adjourned at 6:40.