

Parks Committee Minutes

Village of Shorewood Hills

Monday, May 13, 2019
Village Hall – 810 Shorewood Boulevard

1. Meeting called to order at 5:38.
 - A. **Roll call.** Members present: Georgene Stratman, Roma Lenehan, Mark Lederer, Jerney Rodgers and Dave Boutwell. Others present: Village Forester Corey George, Garden Club liaison Mary Janet Wellensiek.
 - B. **Compliance with Open-Meeting Law.** The meeting was properly posted.
 - C. **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes of the previous meeting were approved 4-0-1 with Mark Lederer abstaining.
2. **Welcome new Parks Chair.** Mark Lederer introduced himself as the new Parks Committee chair. He confirmed that Jeremy Rogers had been appointed to the Parks Committee by the Village Board. There was a brief discussion over Mary Janet Wellensiek should be a formal member of the Parks Committee. As she was willing to continue to attend Park Committee meetings as the Garden Club liaison and the Parks Committee had a full complement of members at this time, she agreed to continue to informally attend meetings as the Garden Club liaison.
3. **Discuss Future Goals** – Mark Lederer inquired as to the expected impact of climate change on the Village’s parks and how it might impact the Committee’s future goals. The committee discussed the probable impact including greater variability and more violent weather. There was some discussion about the difference between invasive and non-native species in the context of climate change. The committee discussed how it might more effectively communicate with residents, particularly new residents and the impact of new construction/remodeling on tree canopy. It was suggested that members prepare their own list of ranked, future goals and share their lists with the committee.
4. **Memorial Bench** – Corey George discussed the desire to honor a resident with a memorial bench. The Committee discussed possible locations including the Quarry and Bigfoot Park. There ensued some discussion over the status of Bigfoot as a park. It was transferred recently to the Stormwater Utility. Some residents wish that the upper/southern section remain as a park. There followed a general discussion of what activities should/can be/are permitted in the parks.
5. **Four Corners Path Project** – Corey George discussed the status and possible timing of the Four Corners Path project. There was some discussion about how other work in the park including tree removal/trimming and the remodeling of the bathroom would impact the park. The Committee asked Corey to coordinate these activities with Karl and Public Works.

- 6. Arbor Day Recap** - Corey George reviewed the activities on Arbor Day. With one exception, the celebration went very well. He discussed his concern that the root flare on the replanted trees was buried by the nursery supplying the trees and that this mistake might reduce the chances that the trees will survive. Corey agreed to follow up with the nursery about the problem. Corey introduced and the Committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the Village assuming some or all the responsibility for the maintenance of the trees on the school grounds.

- 7. Future Agenda Items** – Possible future agenda items included the future of the space once the Scout shack is removed from Post Farm Park, the status of the infiltration ditches/rain gardens, the future goals of the Committee and what activities may and may not be permitted in the parks.

- 8. Forester's report as shared.**

- 9. Adjourned at 7:00 pm.**