

Parks Committee Minutes Village of Shorewood Hills

Monday, January 9th, 2017
Village Hall – 810 Shorewood Blvd

1. Meeting called to order at 5:35 pm by committee chair Anne Readel

- **Roll Call:** Members Present: Anne Readel, David Boutwell, Kathie Brock, Sue Denholm, Nancy Heiden, and Georgene Stratman. Others Present: Village Forester Corey George. Village residents JoAnn Stein, Trina Schuler, and Michael Schuler. Village Trustee Felice Borisy-Rudin.
- **Compliance with Open Meeting Law:** The meeting was properly posted.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the October 24, 2016 meeting and from the December 12, 2016 meeting were approved with minor corrections.

2. **Bird City Status.**

The Committee welcomed Village residents Trina and Michael Schuler, and Joni Stein to the meeting. Trustee Felice Borisy-Rudin was also in attendance. An extensive conversation was held regarding the Shorewood Hills Ordinance and Regulation of Pets. The primary interest of the Committee was to understand impacts of free roaming cats on birds and other wildlife. The Parks Committee agreed that further conversation on changes to the VOSH Ordinance should take place at meetings of the Public Health & Safety Committee and the Board of Trustees.

Corey George informed the Parks Committee that he had an earlier conversation with Bryan Lenz, Director of Bird City Wisconsin. Mr. Lenz affirmed that the VOSH Village Ordinance does not negate our current Bird City Wisconsin status.

Trustee Borisy-Rudin recommended a community wide information and discussion meeting, similar to the recent Coyote forum. The Parks Committee agreed. Mr. George will discuss organizing a forum with Village Administrator Karl Frantz. It was also recommended that Mr. Frantz contact Bryan Lenz to assess his interest and availability to participate in the proposed forum sometime in March.

The Parks Committee decided they would establish a policy recommendation regarding free roaming cats at a future meeting. They agreed to take up this action following the community forum.

3. **Locust Drive Construction.**

Corey George informed the Committee about upcoming street reconstruction plans along a section of Locust Drive. The current plans show a sidewalk being added on the south side of Locust Drive (between Maple Terrace and Burbank Place) and the new road is pushed further north. This project will require transplanting and protecting desirable trees, removal of mature trees, and replanting. This action will significantly change the overall landscape screening at the site. Residents along the south side of Locust Drive have received meeting invites and project

notifications. The Parks Committee agreed that advance notice should be sent to residents across the train tracks along Tally Ho Lane. Mr. George will speak with Village Administrator Karl Frantz on the recommendation.

4. **Herbicide Application on Lawns.**

Recent public information sources have raised concerns regarding hazards of pesticide applications on lawns and gardens.

The Parks Committee agreed it is important to raise awareness by educating residents on the topic. Chairperson Anne Readel will contact Public Health and Safety Committee chairperson Felice Borisy-Rudin to discuss the possibility of organizing a joint informational meeting.

The Wisconsin Landscape Registry with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection allows residents to be notified before landscape companies apply herbicides (weed-killing pesticides) to neighboring property. The Registry will notify enrollees before lawn care and landscape companies apply pesticides to neighboring property.

5. **Other Updates.**

Corey George informed the Committee he will meet with landscape architect Susan Murray at Bigfoot on Friday January 13, 2017. They will discuss options for simple, low maintenance, and native plant restoration at the site.

6. **Resident Input.**

There was no additional resident input.

7. **Future Agenda Items.**

- Bird City Education and Habitat Management.
- Herbicide Application on Lawns.
- Shorewood Hills Elementary School Outdoor Improvements.
- Next Phase of the Natural Play Area at Post Farm Park.

8. **Forester's Report:** The monthly Forester's report for December 2016 was distributed to the Parks Committee for discussion. A yearend review of the community forestry program is included in the report. Highlights include 255 trees/shrubs planted, 340 trees pruned, and 180 trees removed.

An application for Tree City USA status has been submitted for recertification.

Adjourned. The Committee adjourned at 7:17 pm.