

VILLAGE OF RIVERSIDE

LANDSCAPE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2020

Parks and Recreation Department, 10 Pine Avenue, Riverside, Illinois

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Maloney at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Chairperson Maloney and Commissioners Lambros, Lucero, Plunkett, Rubin, Schaff

Absent: Commissioner Cody

Also Present: Director of Public Works Bailey, Forester Collins

3. Consider approval of January 14, 2020, regular meeting minutes.

Motion Commissioner Lucero. Second Commissioner Rubin. CARRIED. To approve the January 14, 2020, meeting minutes as presented.

4. Discuss new Commission meeting location.

The Director of Public works informed the Commission that the Parks and Recreation Department would be relocating to a new facility on East Quincy Street within a few months. After relocation, the conference room at the current Department facility will be renovated into activity space requiring the Commission to hold its meeting in a new location. The Director will investigate options and report a new meeting location to the Commission once confirmed.

5. Green Grant Follow up

The Chairperson shared that there was approximately \$2,000 in unexpended grant funds. The Chairperson and Commissioner Schaff had met and discussed some options to install some nature related items in the Riverside library. The Commission was supportive of the concept. The Chairperson and Commissioner will make a return visit to meet with the Library Director in an effort to finalize some item and the Chairperson will correspond with the grant administrator to seek approval of the expenditure.

6. Nature Play Day.

The Commission briefly discussed the Nature by Design Game Day scheduled for April 4 at the Riverside Library.

7. Chairperson's Report

The Chairperson's report was incorporated into discussion during other agenda items.

8. Standing Discussion Topics

Master Landscape Plan

Commissioner Plunkett reported that she intended to take 3 season photographs of the 6 street triangles identified as important in the Master Landscape Plan.

Outreach and Education

Commissioner Schaff observed that Riverside Township had sesquicentennial activities planned on September 19 which may overwhelm the Commission's planned Picnic Like It's 1869 which the Commission had previously scheduled for September 20. After some discussion the Commission agreed that rescheduling the Picnic for September 13 would be best.

Commissioner Plunkett is taking the lead on 2020 arboretum tours. The first tour will be held on Arbor Day, April 24 at 3:30 p.m. The Commission agreed that it would be a good idea for 4 – 5 docents to participate, that some elementary school students could be invited, as well as, the Girl Scout Troop that installed the plantings along the Des Plaines River during 2020. Commissioner Schaff will create some type of Certificates of Appreciation for the Girl Scouts. A tree planting may also take place in the vicinity of Guthrie Park. The second tour will be held during the Picnic Like It's 1869 event.

Commissioner Lambros briefed that the Eagle Scout Guthrie Park tree tag project had fallen behind schedule but that a number of people are continuing to work the project to help assure it is completed. The project was originally proposed for an end of February 2020 completion date but the Commission agreed that an extension to the end of March 2020 was acceptable. The Forester noted a problem with the apparently aluminum screws that were used to secure the original tree tags several years ago. The screws securing the tree tags on fast growing intermediate size trees have proven difficult, if not impossible, to adjust or remove as the tree fibers are enveloping the hardware. The Forester will investigate tree tagging best practices with the Morton Arboretum staff and consult with the tree tag supplier to assure that the most appropriate hardware is used and practices followed.

The Chairperson shared that a booth at the Farmers Market has been reserved for the Landscape Advisory Commission for the last Wednesday in August to promote its programs and provide educational materials to market patrons.

Commissioner Rubin stated that he had been working with the Village Clerk to update and improve the Commission web page on the Village web site and had sent out a link to Commission members for their inspection prior to the meeting. Commissioners were appreciative and complimentary toward the web page improvements. The Commissioner went through a number web page details with the Commission and will follow up with the Clerk. Commissioner Rubin also reported that he has been working with the Village's GIS technician to convert the Village's "custom" tree data into a format that is used throughout the GIS

Consortium. This will allow the Village to utilize new or different concepts created in other communities and easier to obtain tree benefit data.

The Commission also agreed that it would revisit the idea of sending out periodic (January, April, July, October) newsflashes that contain gardening tips or other information.

Arboretum

Arboretum information was reported during the Outreach and Education section

Homeowners Guide to Planting Brochure

The Chairperson has completed her work on the brochure and will send the document out to the Commissioners and assign each Commissioner a section to review with comments to be provided during an upcoming Commission meeting.

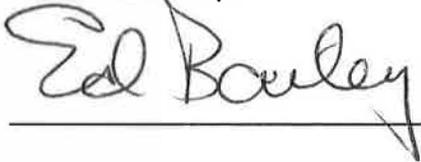
Other Business

The Chairperson reported that she had recently spoken with the head of the National Association of Olmsted Parks. The Association is planning a substantial celebration of Frederick Law Olmsted on Olmsted's birthday in 2022. Commission member were asked to keep this in mind and think of ways that the celebration could be marked locally.

9. Adjournment.

Motion Commissioner Plunkett. Second Commissioner Lucero. CARRIED. To adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

Minutes Taken By:



Minutes Approved By: