

VILLAGE OF RIVERSIDE

LANDSCAPE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2019

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; Commissioners Cody, Lambros, Lucero

Absent: Commissioners Plunkett, Rubin, Schaff

Also Present: Director of Public Works Bailey, Forester Collins

3. Consider approval of October 9, 2018, and January 8, 2019, regular meeting minutes.

Motion Lucero. Second Lambros. CARRIED. To approve the October 9, 2018, regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion Lambros. Second Cody. CARRIED. To approve the January 8, 2019, regular meeting minutes as presented.

4. Hardscape Permit application for removal and relocation of plaques and Guthrie Park.

The Director of Public Works presented a Hardscape Permit application seeking Commission comment on proposed removal and relocation of several plaques at Guthrie Park. The proposal was to remove the S. Ashley Guthrie plaque from its host stone on the north side of the Veterans Memorial and re-install the Guthrie plaque on the west side of the Edward A. Driver memorial which is located on the east end of Guthrie Park. A World War I memorial plaque would then be installed on the stone that formerly hosted the S. Ashley Guthrie plaque.

Motion Lucero. Second Cody. CARRIED. Finding that the plaque material and location is acceptable and that the Village's landscape will not be negatively affected by the proposed plaque removal and relocation.

5. Review and discuss a project to improve the Train Station planting beds.

The Director of Public Works briefed the Commission that a longstanding goal of the Riverside Garden Club was to overhaul the planting beds but the project had been delayed pending completion of Train Station structural improvements. Now that improvements have been completed, including interior renovations, contact was made with the Garden Club President who confirmed the Club's continued interest in the project. The Director will plan to work directly with the Garden Club to complete the planting bed improvement but may call on the Commission for advice or assistance.

6. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Maloney reported that sesquicentennial planning was in full swing. A banner advertising the various Sesquicentennial participants and activities will be installed at Guthrie Park and a media blitz will follow.

7. Standing Discussion Topics

Master Landscape Plan

No discussion

Outreach and Education

The Commission devoted substantial time to discussing the proposed Bioblitz which is scheduled for May 11 around the Scout Cabin. The BioBlitz will be centered on the iNaturalist web site and Chairperson Maloney encouraged each of the Commissioners to register on the site and explore and familiarize themselves with site features. The Chairperson has focused on enlisting scientists to lead groups of citizen scientists that explore and collect data on designated flora and fauna such as birds, mammals, mosses, insects and fish/aquatics. The scientists will have significant influence on the process and duration of data collection. Commissioner Lambros reported that she was provided a contact for the Executive Director of the Nahant Marsh where a bioblitz was conducted during 2018. The Executive Director should be a good resource and expressed an interest in participating in the Riverside event if it works with his schedule. Commissioner Lambros also made contact with the Illinois Native Plant Society. This group is also likely to be a good resource since several Society members are professional botanists and ecologists, as well, the Society has provided support to events similar to the BioBlitz. The Native Plant Society is having a meeting near the end of February and the Riverside event will be communicated to the group seeking commitments of participation. It was also recognized that the BioBlitz require substantial logistical support such as supplies, registration and food and drink for scientists.

Motion Lucero. Second Lambros. CARRIED. Agreeing that the Landscape Advisory Commission will spearhead the Riverside Bioblitz on May 11.

8. Adjournment.

Commissioner Lambros left the meeting at 8:02 p.m. and, since there was no longer a quorum present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Minutes Taken By:

Ed Bailey

Minutes Approved By:

Cathy Maloney