

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 5:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2013, IN THE MAPLE BOARDROOM OF THE HILTON GARDEN INN HOTEL, 26225 N. RIVERWOODS BOULEVARD, METTAWA, ILLINOIS.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Towne called the meeting to order, at approximately 5:31 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Upon a call of the roll, the following persons were:

Present: Member Armstrong, Member Lane (at 5:34pm), and Chairman Towne

Absent: None

Also present: Bob Irvin, Village Administrator; Scott Anderson, Village Engineer; Colleen Liberacki, Deputy Village Clerk. Chairman Towne declared a quorum present.

C. Approval of minutes from July 10, 2013.

Member Armstrong moved to accept the minutes of June 10, 2013 as presented and Chairman Towne seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

D. WHIPPOORWILL PARK PLAN UPDATE

Chairman Towne reported that he received the plan late today and emailed it to the committee members, but he has yet to send it to the village board members. He stated that there would be no action tonight since no one has had time to review it. He wants the trees measuring in diameter 2.5” – 3” planted in late spring and other small plantings to go in soon. Chairman Towne also would like MOLA to review the plan and give their input. He anticipates that the berm will be finished grading and seeded by the end of October, which includes a final layer of black top. He reminded the committee members that \$35K was budgeted in the funds paid by Ehlers & Juhrend for the landscaping of the berm, and \$88K was already paid to the village, with the balance still due at the completion of the project.

E. OASIS PARK UPDATE

Chairman Towne would like to address the drainage swale at the north end of Oasis Park. It exists as a culvert under Bradley Road and Oasis Service Road and goes on. There is debris located there (old tires and frequent dumping) and a good time to take care of this is when they are addressing other needs of Oasis Park. He presented picture photocopies of an idea he has in mind for what the area could look like. He would like to seek a bid to remove the “garbage” trees: ash, elms & boxelder, and thinks they could take advantage of an excess load of gravel that a contractor would like to dispose of, should the project be ready. The gravel would contain the stream/flow of water. Chairman Towne thinks that the Storm Water Management may become involved and would support this idea. Scott Anderson noted that there would be a permitting process involved prior to starting the project.

Chairman Towne inquired if everyone was on board with the ash tree removal plan, and Member Armstrong agreed. Chairman Towne felt all ash trees should be removed, whether

they are dead or alive, as trying to maintain the trees in the face of the emerald ash borer would be expensive.

The fall mowing is not settled on the new sites yet, as two of the three have not been closed on: the restaurant property and the church property. He did note that last year a resident voluntarily mowed down the foliage at the restaurant property due to the dense weeds being a problem.

Scott Anderson stated that the only way to control the teasel invasive was to either collect all the seed heads or burn the weeds, as mowing would only spread the seeds.

Chairman Towne passed out the Park, Trail and Open Space map and Member Lane noted that the village is close to owning 82 acres.

F. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE VILLAGE BOARD

Chairman Towne noted that Mrs Tindall has requested to put in a concrete bench at her own expense on the Jack Tindall trail, avoiding the LCFP property. Member Lane noted that the village has already honored Jack Tindall by naming a trail after him and that should be enough. He suggested that Mrs. Tindall could go the LCFP and ask them for permission to place a memorial bench. Chairman Towne wondered if the village did give permission for the placement of a memorial bench, it would set a precedent that would populate the trails and there already is a large stone on Shagbark for honoring Getz. Member Lane stated that Mary Brennan advised Mrs. Tindall that this would not be feasible and then she contacted Chairman Towne for the same request. Member Armstrong felt that if a bench were to be installed, that the best place for utilization would be on the Lake County property. All members agreed that the committee would not give permission to install a bench. It was finally put upon Chairman Towne to relay the decision back to Mrs. Tindall.

G. ADJOURNMENT

With no further items discussed, it was moved by Member Armstrong to adjourn the meeting at 5:58pm, seconded by Member Lane. The motion was carried.

Colleen Liberacki, Deputy Clerk

This document is subject to correction as noted on next meeting's minutes.