

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF METTAWA, ILLINOIS, HELD AT THE HOUR OF 7:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2018, IN THE MAPLE ROOM OF HILTON GARDEN INN HOTEL, 26225 N. RIVERWOODS BOULEVARD, METTAWA, ILLINOIS**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Member Towne called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Upon a call of the roll the following persons were:

Present: Members Bohm and Towne

Absent: Chairman Sheldon

Member Towne declared a quorum present.

Also, Present: Village Administrator, Bob Irvin; Village Clerk, Sandy Gallo; Village Engineer, Scott Anderson

**C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY MEETING**

Meeting minutes of May 9, 2018 were reviewed. It was moved by Member Bohm and seconded by Member Towne that the meeting minutes be approved and placed on file. The motion was carried.

Trustee Pink questioned Member Towne if he stated that every property starting at Always Faithful down Old School Road to St. Marys Road are horse owners. Village Clerk Gallo said the corrected minutes included almost in the statement. Member Towne said he was good with the correction.

**D. DISCUSS PETITION FOR VACATION OF EQUESTRIAN EASEMENT IN THE RIVERSIDE PRESERVE SUBDIVISION**

Member Towne said this easement is considered an equestrian and pedestrian walkway trail. Member Towne said the Village still has access to the trail through the subdivision. The Village owns lot 18.

Resident, Andrea Lavelle (12 Alexandra Drive) said she enjoys her property because it is very private.

Member Towne asked Mrs. Lavelle if all the current lot owners were in favor of vacating the easement. Mrs. Lavelle said she received signature approval from all of lot owners in favor of vacating the easement in the subdivision.

Village Administrator Irvin stated the petition does not mention that if the Village vacates, the easement, Mr. Kotaba would tear down the barn. The barn is owned by the subdivision.

Member Towne said the subdivision residents should be made aware of what Mr. Kotaba's plans are of either updating or tearing down the barn.

Mrs. Lavelle stated vacating the easement and what to do with the barn are two separate issues. The homeowners will address the barn with Mr. Kotaba separately.

Member Bohm said if the homeowners want to vacate the trail easement, he too is okay with that motion.

Member Towne said with the Village vacating the trail will eliminate maintenance cost.

Member Bohm moved, seconded by Member Towne to vacate the Riverside Preserve subdivision easement at the request of the homeowners. The motion carried.

Trustee Pink asked if Mr. Kotaba knows these factors are two separate issues. Member Bohm said yes, he signed the petition.

Member Towne said this agenda item will be discussed at the next Board meeting. Village Administrator Irvin said the Board could recommend the vacating of this easement. If the recommendation is approved, the Board will then direct the Village Attorney to draft an ordinance.

**E. UPDATE ON ROUTE 60 ISLAND PLANTING**

Member Towne said David Martin has been working on the island plantings. No planting is anticipated for this summer. Village Engineer Scott Anderson stated the island planting can not be planted until early next year spring. The final plantings will need to be approved by IDOT.

Trustee Pink asked why the island plans did not include any trees. Member Towne said trees could create a limiting visibility for drivers. Village Engineer Scott Anderson said trees are not as tolerate to snow as plants have shown.

**F. DISCUSS SIGNAGE FOR TRAILS AND HORSE CROSSINGS**

Member Towne mentioned the email received from Mr. Casas earlier today. Member Towne sent Mr. Casas email regarding his horse crossing sign to the Village Clerk.

Village Engineer Scott Anderson said the horse crossing sign is a private improvement not a public improvement. This request only benefits one property. If Mr. Casas would like to pursue this horse crossing sign, he will need to complete an engineering study, draw up plans to be reviewed and submit for a permit at his expense.

Trustee Pink asked how this mid-block horse crossing sign request will be handled by the Village. Village Engineer Scott Anderson said Mr. Casas will need to complete an engineering study to show there is a need for a mid-block horse crossing. Trustee Pink asked does the Village need to complete this study. Village Engineer Scott Anderson said no.

Resident, Dr. Fantus (14253 W. Riteway Road) asked where this horse crossing would connect. Dr. Fantus said during Mr. Casas public hearing, Mr. Casas stated this exit's sole purpose was to be used for emergency vehicles only.

Village Engineer Scott Anderson said if Mr. Casas were to place lights, they would need to be placed on both sides of the property lot.

Member Towne said Mr. Casas felt that having a mid-block crossing would allow the riders to be seen by the cars and allow a safer crossing for the rider onto his property. Member Towne said AbbVie does have a mid-block crossing to the Village trail.

Village Administrator Irvin said there are certain engineering parameters that will need to be completed. The Village would also need to enter into a license agreement with Mr. Casas, if that is what they decide.

Member Towne said this discussion will continue for the next Committee meeting to allow Member Bohm and Chairman Sheldon to read Mr. Casas email. Member Bohm requested Village Clerk Gallo to distribute Mr. Casas email to the Village Board for review.

**G. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY APPEAR TO THE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION, AND IF APPROVED, BE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Member Bohm stated he received an email that the Bradley Road trail relocation was due to commence. Village Engineer Scott Anderson said he was told the contractor will begin the preparing the area next week.

Village Administrator Irvin said the discussion of the 701 Riverwoods Boulevard hay bailing action item was on last month's agenda. The Village Attorney researched this matter and the Village is allowed to hay this property because it is considered open space.

Mr. Fantus asked why there was a prejudicing treatment on only one of the subdivision that were requested to vacate for this month's agenda.

Member Bohm said the second trail is being researched by the Village Attorney. Member Towne said the Committee is looking at a substandard subdivision and other factors. Member Towne said no one is against vacating this easement. Village Administrator Irvin said if the direction is to vacate the easement, the Village Attorney can draft an ordinance.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Member Bohm and seconded by Member Towne to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 pm. The motion was carried.

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk