

PARKS & FORESTRY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

Town of Wilson Hall
5933 South Business Drive
Sheboygan, WI. 53081

Present: Deborah Lisberg, Bill Hartmann, Andy VanStelle, Dóri Nemeth (via Call).

Partner in attendance: Ben Darkow

1. Meeting called to order @ 6:30pm. Quorum is present and meeting is in compliance with open meeting regulations.
2. No Public comments; (Ben gave Maintenance report @ end of meeting.)
3. Balzer Woods – viewing shed: Tom Kaiser’s concept photo had been shared with all Commissioners. Consensus remains that this is ‘overmuch’, & given its location, has great potential to be abused (likely by kids when discovered); it also represents maintenance burden (staining/painting). Additional thoughts expressed included: overall cost and getting the building materials to the proposed site, and it’s unlikely that folks will be out walking if weather is inclement requiring shelter. All Commissioners present welcome the placement of a bench or two, where people can sit, chat, rest, observe and photograph Nature.
4. Approval of September 6, 2022 minutes: Motion to approve by Bill, second by Andy – minutes approved as submitted.
5. Mueller Barberry update – quotes. Await report from Sam
6. Beehive update – appearances are that they are conforming, in due time.
7. Jerving Honeysuckle: Bill and others have worked twice & are stacking the debris trailside for possible controlled burn during winter. Next work day is Tuesday, 10/18, 9am-noon.
8. Herbicide concerns. Await report from Tom Stoelb who was exploring what Plymouth uses and report back. Dóri again recommended the product, “Marengo”, as a safer, current formulation.
9. Noxious weed Ordinance: on Pause. Education is necessary on this expanded list prior to rollout, plus we as a Town must evidence our compliance (or significant attempts at).

10. Fall Tree planting: 10/29, 0900, begin @ Jerving. Our planning walk-thru is on 10/25, 5pm, meet @ Jerving. Dóri to coordinate with Andy on tree availability and pick up date. Dóri will again create flyers for distribution.
11. 2023 Projects. We have a Spring tree planting to accomplish, and in general - choose to focus on making progress on existing initiatives, taking on new projects as itemized on the budget request when able.
12. Andy explored a 'slit seeder' to re-seed the trail @ Schinker, but it's now deemed too late in the season to be optimally effective, so will reconsider this technique in Spring.
13. GLACIERLAND has reported that their Phragmites work is nearly complete, including all resident properties that granted permission. Dóri exploring resident hold-outs – perhaps we can prompt participation. (?)
14. Ben Darkow reported that the stumps of the marked failed trees @ Schinker Creek Park have been removed in advance of the replacement plantings. The water fountain @ Fireman's Park has been winterized. Questioned bathroom winter Lock Outs to avoid future catastrophes – Ben will consult with Rick Meyer regarding past practices. Additionally, it was agreed that P & F will provide a suggested SOP list of Park Maintenance duties. From that, Ben can evaluate what his crew can do, at what cost, and then P & F can budget accordingly – to include those duties and outsource others.
15. Motion to adjourn by Deborah Lisberg, 2nd by Bill, adjourned @ 7:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Lisberg