



2 LAGOON DRIVE - HAWTHORN WOODS, ILLINOIS 60047 - (847) 438-5500 FAX 847-438-1459

Minutes

AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
THE VILLAGE OF HAWTHORN WOODS, IL.
2 LAGOON DRIVE, HAWTHORN WOODS, IL. 60047
THURSDAY, March 3, 2022 7:00 PM
VIA ZOOM MEETINGS

1. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. In attendance were Trustee Steve Riess, Jodi Clute, Ted Schweitzer, Kathy Felice, Mahmood Muhiuddin. Committee Members, Mary Kay Kolseth, Jill Mark, and John Bickley were excused. Also in attendance were Village staff personnel, Robin Grooms and Brian Sullivan.

2. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

No one appeared before the committee.

3. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 03, 2022

Ted Schweitzer motioned and Kathy Felice seconded to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2022 as presented. All present voted aye and the motion carried.

4. Trustee/Chairman Report

A. Trustee Steve Riess

1. Review Growth Award Designation

Trustee Riess, asked Director of Parks and Recreation to explain the receipt of the Tree City USA/Arbor Day Foundation Growth Award. Sullivan, explained the process followed in the application process involving all village departments and the Sustainability Committee

whose efforts at the Tree Give away last May were instrumental in securing the point total necessary for recognition and presentation of the Growth Award. Sullivan thanked the committee for their ongoing commitment to the villages ecological wellbeing which was also echoed by Trustee Riess. Sullivan stated, he hoped to have the physical award itself in hand to present to the Mayor and Village Board on March 28, 2028 in person at the Village Hall Barn. He asked Committee members to check their schedules and be present for the proposed acknowledgment and presentation from them (Sustainability Committee) to the Village. Robin Grooms asked to have pictures taken of the Committee members as no current photos of this current membership exists. Trustee Riess further stated he was hoping the Growth Award would serve as a springboard to allow, if possible, within the context of the Village budget, to attend a workshop and educational sessions in the spring being held in Seattle, Washington. He would follow up with the Mayor and Village COO Pam Newton.

Sustainability Webpage

No report at this time. However, Trustee Riess stated he would be meeting in the near future, with Jodi Clute and Amy Mason to work on a format and structure for a village website presence for the Sustainability Committee. He hoped to have something concrete to report at the April 7, 2022 meeting.

Review Tree Selection for Spring/Arbor Day Tree Distribution

Trustee Riess highlighted the tree selection ordered from the Mason State Nursery in Topeka, Illinois. He further stated the trees saplings would be picked up on May 4, 2022. The trees were as follows;

125 Black Chokeberry

125 Elderberry

150 Grey Dogwood

75 Hazelnut, Norway Spruce, Overcup Oak

25 Bald Cypress

Review Volunteer Restoration Day for March (Indian Creek Preserve)

Trustee Riess asked Sullivan to recap the February Buckthorn Removal at Indian Creek Preserve. And highlight the upcoming effort on Saturday, March 19, 2022 between the hours of 9 am and noon at the end of the Cul De Sac on Seneca West in the Indian Creek Conservancy neighborhood in Hawthorn Woods. Sullivan said, a large group of

16 volunteers and staff worked hard and were featured in the recent village news / electronic newsletter. Sullivan invited the Committee to come out and donate whatever time they had available (one hour or all three). All hands would be welcome.

Road Referendum Questions-

No questions from the Committee were asked. Sullivan explained, that the Village Board had recently voted to place a question on the upcoming village election ballot an information would be available on the Village's website.

Floating Island Review

Ted Schweitzer reported he was researching these etiologically beneficial floating islands. He hopes to have more information for presentation at the next Sustainability meeting in April.

5. Staff Reports

A. Brian Sullivan, Sustainability Committee Staff Liaison-

Sullivan reported he had no further report at this time.

B. Robin Groom Sustainability Coordinator-

Robin Grooms presented the committee with updated information regarding our Audubon International certification. It is our hope that we will hopefully also be received in March in time for the March Village Board meeting.

Robin also detailed a fun learning opportunity and possible programming effort in the Village Barn that her and committee member Jodi Clute, were working on for celebration of Earth Day. The purpose would be to promote what people could at home to help the environment. This effort to help educate and engage the residents of Hawthorn Woods was supported and enthusiastically received by the Sustainability Committee members.

Next, Robin reported that the Bee City Renewal application for 2021 had been submitted.

Robin ended her report with information about the Xerxes Foundation which publishes self-help guides and educational "How to" articles for home gardeners which may be available at no cost to reproduce and place on the Village's Website.

6. New Business

Jodi Clute expressed an opinion that she would like to see the committee look into the Villages ordinances/policies/guidelines on Home Recycling. And discuss at the next April meeting. Too many people (residents) she stated, might not know what can and what should not be recycled.

Robin and Brian discussed the possibility of a new program on March 26, 2022, from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm entitled the "Observation of Earth Hour". Robin explained it involved in participating residents turning of their home lights for an hour. As an additional benefit, it may support and help village activity in maintaining our Dark Skies designation. All present agreed it was a good idea and discussion ensued on the creation of posters and the best way to publicize this event. Jodi and Robin will work on potential poster themes and concepts.

Ted Schweitzer asked if there was any available information on recycling empty propane bottles for small outdoor grills. Trustee Riess said he was deeply involved with SWALCO and local recycling efforts and what can and could not be recycled in the State of Illinois. Currently he said, these canisters or storage tanks are not considered recyclable and must be disposed of in the garbage and thrown away unfortunately.

7. Old Business

Kathy Felice asked about the status of helpful speaker directed, workshops for residents about best practices in home gardening and the creation of home pollinator pockets/gardens. Sullivan responded that the village had just this week lifted it in person use of its facilities as they related to the COVID 19 pandemic. Further, she explained that efforts were being made to contact potential program presenters/speakers with the University of Illinois Cooperative Exchange and the Lake County Farm Bureau. Kathy also suggested contacting the Lake County Forest Preserve as they conduct similar programs. Sullivan said he would work with Kathy on trying to bring these workshops to fruition and report back at the April meeting.

8. Adjournment

Kathy Felice motioned and Jodi Clute seconded to adjourn. All present voted aye and the meeting ended at 7:41 pm.