



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

AGENDA MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
THE VILLAGE OF HAWTHORN WOODS, IL.
94 MIDLOTHIAN, AQUATIC CENTER
HAWTHORN WOODS, IL. 60047
THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE **The Sustainability Committee meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm. In attendance were Trustee Liaison Anne Hurst, John Bickley, Mary Kay Kolseth, Jodi Klute, Kathy Felice, Farah Laman. A quorum being present the meeting proceeded.**
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES **John Bickley made a motion seconded by Kathy Felice to approve the minutes of January 4, 2024 with a correction of Item 5 section B 3 to correct Creel to Creek. All in attendance approved and measure passed.**
3. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE **No public members wished to address the committee.**
- 4.
5. TRUSTEE ANNE HURST REPORT
 - a) Introduction of Resident Farah Laman as Newest Committee Member **Trustee Anne Hurst presented Farah Laman as the newest Mayoral citizen appointment to the committee. Each attending member introduced themselves.**
 - b) Selection of Chairman for Sustainability Committee. **After spirited discussion and announcement by current Chairman John Bickley that it is his intent to resign as Chairperson and remain on the committee through 2024 due to and expansion of his work responsibilities. Mary Kay Kolseth was nominated and accepted the nomination as the next Chairperson of the committee. All present voted aye.**
 - c) Update on Bark in the Park Event at Community Park, April 13, 2024 9 am – noon **Trustee Hurst alerted those in attendance about the annual Bark in the Park event in community Park next weekend. The event is free and a fun time for both families and their dogs.**
 - d) Review Scheduled Next Committee Meeting Date **Trustee Hurst stated the next meeting would be after the 4th of July on Thursday, July 11 at 6:30 pm.**
 - e) Update on Future Proposed Bike Routes in VHW **Trustee Hurst discussed future plans by the village for working on a Bike Path in connection to the Lake County Road expansion along Old McHenry and going beneath the train tracks. She also commented on the Village's continued commitment to securing and installing a community wide series of internal Bike Routes to help provide safe transportation (non-motorized) areas connecting our community.**
 - f) REVIEW SPRING PROPOSED ADOPT A HIGHWAY (SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024, 9 AM) **The event has been scheduled with LCDOT and we hope for up to 12 volunteers to clean Old McHenry from Darlington to Lagoon. We will start at the Barn at 9 am until noon (or when we have completed trash collection). Light refreshments will be provided.**
 - g) Review MAY ARBOR DAY TREE GIVEAWAY – SATURDAY, MAY 04, 2024 (Pick up on May 2nd in Topeka, IL) **Volunteers were requested from the committee to work at the annual Village Tree Give Away event at the Aquatic Center parking Lot on May 4- 2024 from 9 am until noon or as soon as the saplings are all gone.**

Wildflower/ pollinator seed packets will also be given away. Committee member Jodi Klute volunteered to accompany Brian Sullivan on May 2, 2024 to pick up the trees from the Mason State Nursery in Topeka, Illinois.

h) Report on Park Tour. Several members of the committee commented on the positive experience touring our parks. Much was learned on the tour of our many impressive parks. The members expressed gratitude to Brian Sullivan for his wealth of knowledge and thanked both Brian and Ryan Mathy for the tour.

6. STAFF REPORT BRIAN SULLIVAN, DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION

- A) Update on Spring/Summer Sustainability Sponsored Programming. We are looking for ideas for future programs to be sponsored by the Sustainability Committee.**
- B) Review Grant Status
 - 1) Lake County Storm Water /Trees Grant Applications Sullivan reviewed two new grant opportunities being offered through Lake County and its Sustainability Committee. Further information will be provided at the July meeting.****
- C) Update on propose Eagle Scout Project Spring/Summer 2024 Sullivan reported on two potential ADA accessible picnic benches an area Eagle Scout would like to build and place in the Hawthorn Hills subdivision parks.**
- D) Update on Volunteer Buckthorn Buster Day at Woodland Park, Saturday, April 27, 2024 9 am – 11:30 am (refreshments will be served) Sullivan explained the importance of volunteer service to our preservation of open space areas and as a match source for future grants.**
- E) Update and Request for Future Articles to Place in Village newsletter Sullivan invited ideas or article drafts from committee members.**
- F) Update on Living a Life in Hawthorn Woods No Report at this time but we are working on articles for publication in village social media vehicles.**
- G) Update on possible Cicadas Impact**

7. COMMITTEE REMARKS /INITIATIVES

- 8. A) Trustee Hurst introduced visiting Village COO, Pam Newton. She addressed the Committee greeting them and thanking them for their service. Additionally, Pam provided a summary on the proposed Solar Farm. She stated as of this date, it appears that Lake County has cancelled its hearing/vote on the subject. The Village while not opposed to solar or alternate sources of energy, merely opposed the firm's plans for an expansive operation with potential harmful impacts on environmental reasons and potential negative outcomes to our natural habitat due to the placement of the proposed farm in proximity to natural resources, native wildlife and adjacent homes.**

The committee discussed an issue concern gym shoe recycling with SWALCO. The issue being raised by committee member Mohiuddin. Pam Newton gave a background history to Village recycling efforts. Trustee Liaison Hurst will look into a couple of ideas with the Ela Library and other potential partners to see if a similar program might be in place and built upon. All present thanked member Mohiuddin for his interest.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm