



**Village of Spring Lake
Tree Board Meeting
Parks & Rec Committee
Monday, May 6, 2019
7:00 p.m.
102 West Savidge Street (EOC Room)
Minutes**

I. Call to Order

Roll Call: Claire Groenevelt (Vice Chair), George Barfield, Darcy Dye, and Lee Schuitema.

Absent: Curt Brower and Erik Poel.

Also Present: Chris Burns (Village Manager) Susan Petrus (Village Council Liaison) and Maryann Fonkert (Deputy Clerk)

- II. Approval of the Agenda:** Motion by **Dye**, second from **Barfield**, to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 4 No: 0

- III. Approval of the Minutes:** Motion by **Schuitema**, second from **Barfield**, to approve the April 1, 2019 regular meeting minutes. All in favor, motion approved.

Yes: 4 No: 0

- IV. Finance Report:** Motion by **Schuitema**, second from **Barfield**, to accept the Finance Report. All in favor, motion carried

Yes: 4 No: 0

- V. Plant Up & Fly Right Tree Planting Donations (Karen Cotton) –** Manager **Burns** introduced Karen Cotton, Charity McMaster and Mark Smith who were in attendance to present a generous donation to the Tree Board. Charity McMaster explained that C3, as one of their core values, believed in care of the earth and one of the ways they felt they could do that was by offsetting the carbon footprint produced by each airplane flight with tree planting. Ms. McMaster said they had an anonymous donor that matched their donations and they would like to present that gift to the Village Tree Board for tree planting. The **Board** thanked C3 for their thoughtful, generous donation.

- VI. Tree Removal Request (Mike Armour – 206 N. Buchanan) –** Request withdrawn. The **Board** discussed the tennis court encroachment onto Lakeside Trail from 206 N Buchanan.

- VII. Tree Grant, North Bank Communities Fund –** **Burns** shared that the North Bank Communities Fund had granted the Village \$2000 for tree planting and asked

the **Board** to consider a request from the Verplank family to expand the tree nursery. The **Board** agreed with this request.

VIII. Parks & Recreations Board Meeting

- 1. Eagle Scout Presentation (Isaiah Visker) – Burns** introduced Isaiah Visker. Mr. Visker shared his plan to restore the beach at the end of Division St. so that kids in his neighborhood could have the same experiences there that he had as a kid. Mr. Visker said he would start with weeding out the sand and then Verplanks Trucking had agreed to donate and deliver 2 tons of riprap and 20 yards of sand that he and the help he had lined up would move down to the beach area and spread out. **Dye** and **Petrus** asked Mr. Visker if the high-water levels would create any issues for his plan. Mr. Visker said he had talked to a landscape expert and used that advice to create his plan and then talked to the Army Corp of Engineers and received their okay. **Dye** asked if a Village employee would work with Mr. Viskers. **Burns** said no, but the project would be inspected before the Village signed off on it.

Motion by **Schuitema**, second from **Barfield**, to approve Isaiah Viskers Eagle Scout project to restore the Division Street park end. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 4 No: 0

- 2. Eagle Scout Presentation (Jackson Der Vartanian) – Burns** introduced Jackson Der Vartanian. Mr. Der Vartania shared his plan to install 2 benches west of the Whistle Stop Playground area along the bike path. Mr. Der Vartanian said he used the path quite often and felt this would be a useful addition. **Schuitema** asked how he was planning on mounting the benches. Mr. Der Vartanian explained the process he planned for installation. **Burns** said that these were the same benches that had been used throughout the Village.

Motion by **Barfield**, second from **Schuitema**, to approve Jackson Der Vartanian's Eagle Scout project to install 2 benches on Lakeside Trail between Cutler Street and Park Street. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 4 No: 0

- 3. Mill Point/Tanglefoot Parks Master Plan Update –** There was a community engagement scheduled for May 29, 2019 from 4-7 p.m. at Seven Steps Up. Postcards would be mailed to every Village resident inviting them to share their thoughts on the project.

4. Parks Updates

- Central Park – Burns** updated the Board on the Peddle, Picnic & Play event and said they were thinking of holding the event on a different weekend because it conflicted with Tulip Time and the Kentucky Derby. **Burns** showed the Board signs for Earth Day and Arbor Day made by a Girl Scouts to hang at the dog park.

Karen Chalupa and Ronnie Hinkins were in attendance to ask for some maintenance to the dog park. Ms. Chalupa listed some of those items needing repair which included a hole in the fence of the small dog area, a large hole near one of the benches, the ground under the bench was all dug out underneath, the bench in the shelter was sinking, and someone had driven over the bricks and they were now a hazard. Ms. Hinkins said that there were several places where the dogs could get under the fence and the gates were hanging at angles so that the dogs could get out there, too. **Burns** said they would have those issues taken care of and thanked them for bringing it to the Villages attention.

- **Whistle Stop Playground – Burns** reported that they finally received the last of the signage for donor recognition and, because they took so long, it was free. **Dye** updated the Board on the plantings that were being done. **Dye** also said that once the mural was done, they would plant something fanciful and childlike underneath it. **Burns** said that they had not received many artist responses yet but was assured by Christy Dreese that this was the way artist's work and there would be more submitting their work.
- **Lakeside Trail –** nothing at this time.
- **Tanglefoot Park – Burns** reported that they were continuing to trap muskrats and that they were very plentiful this year. Claire Groenevelt's dog was unofficially on the payroll doing her part to remove muskrats in Claire's neighborhood.
- **Mill Point Park – Burns** said the parking lot was under water; she didn't recommend driving through it. If the water continues to rise, they will likely close the lot for safety reasons.

5. Miscellaneous

- Sherron Collins, a member of the Historic Commission and former member of the Heritage Festival Committee, shared her thoughts regarding the Mill Point Park redesign and what this would mean to the Heritage Festival. Ms. Collins also informed the Board that there would be a picnic at Central Park on September 7th to celebrate the Village's Sesquicentennial and details would be coming soon.

Burns shared the conceptual designs that came out of the meetings by the committee that was created to start the process of redesigning Tanglefoot and Mill Point Parks. The **Board** discussed those design ideas. **Burns** invited the Board to a Community Engagement Open House at Seven Steps Up on Wednesday, May 29, 2019 to give their ideas and hear ideas from the community.

Burns reported that the Joint Parks and Rec Master Plan was reaching the end of its life, which was 5 years, so they had obtained a price to update the plan which need to be done by the end of the year so that they would still be eligible to apply for grants from the DNR Trust Fund. **Burns** asked the **Board** to look over the current plan and to let her know of any changes they would like to see.

IX. Adjournment

Motion by **Barfield**, second from **Dye**, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 4

No: 0

Curt Brower, Chair

Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk