

CONSERVANCY & SCENIC CORRIDOR COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
VILLAGE HALL
October 16, 2019

CALL TO ORDER; Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Kelley Smith Chairman, Jeanette Burger, Sharon DalCompo and Rob Seitz

Members absent; Kathy Wiberg.

Also present: Jim Hogue, Village Planner

VISITOR BUSINESS; None

MEETING MINUTES – August 21, 2019

Typographical errors were noted in the draft minutes. Commissioner DalCompo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Burger, to accept the August 21, 2019 Draft Meeting minutes as corrected. On a voice vote all aye.

APPLICATIONS: NONE

OTHER BUSINESS;

Chairman Smith introduced the newest CSC member, Mr. Rob Seitz, to the other CSC members. He then congratulated him on his appointment and welcomed him to the Commission.

a). Review and discussion of current Village Code regulations applicable to CSCC activities.

Chairman Smith gave an overview of the purpose of the meeting. As there were no applications for consideration the CSCC was to review the “scope” of all their duties. It was noted that the Village Board had expressed an interest in having the CSCC do more in the way of educating the citizenry regarding the maintenance of conservancy areas (e.g. burning) as well as other aspects of conservancies and scenic corridors.

Getting information to the HOA presidents may be a useful strategy in educating village residents regarding conservancy/scenic corridor easements. He noted the Village Board was encouraging the CSC to be more proactive in conservancy matters. It was noted that over the last several years the CSCC had not received a lot of applications and had not been very active.

Commissioner DalCompo suggested enlisting the services of other agencies (Openlands, Lake County FPD, Landscape Companies) in educating citizens regarding management of open spaces in general and conducting seminars or workshops on this topic.

After further discussion it was thought that 2 seminars or workshops per year (spring and fall) would be a good goal for the Commission to achieve.

Planner Hogue noted that while enlisting the services of other agencies was a good idea, consideration should

be given to the specifics of the Long Grove regulations regarding these open spaces.

Commissioner Seitz asked about “burn permits” and how many conservancy burns were done annually.

Planner Hogue responded that there was an IEPA burn list through the State on which those conducting controlled burns must be registered. Furthermore, a permit to do the burn must be issued from the local fire protection district. Planner Hogue indicated he would contact the fire protection districts regarding the number of burn permits and number of burns which have actually been conducted.

It was suggested the rules for burning be published in “The Bridge” and the difference between a controlled burn and recreational fire (5’x 5’ x 5’) be noted.

After discussion it was determined that getting this information on the Village Board agenda for the annual Village Board/ HOA President Meeting would be a good opportunity for spring seminar/workshop. The topic of the session would be a general overview of conservancy issues and the provision of controlled burn information including training resources on how to conduct such an event, follow up steps to a burn, costs of a controlled burns and possibly contractors who offer these services.

b). Native Plant Species List Update

Commissioner Burger noted consideration should be given to broadening the native plant species list. The currently adopted list was limited to identification of plant species in the Redd-Turner Woodland. Augmenting this list to include species native to Lake County is desirable in that: 1) it allows for more local native plant species to be included in conservancy areas; 2) this has a positive effect on the bio-diversity of these natural areas; 3) it allows property owners more flexibility in seed mixes for conservancy restorations.

Commissioner Burger will prepare recommendations on plants species for CSCC consideration. It was noted that including dates and calendars for native plant sales from various sources could be included in village correspondence such as the “E-news” and “The Bridge”.

c). Appointment of a Vice-Chair

Chairman Smith noted that with resignation of Commissioner Schmitt the position of Vice-Chairman was left open. He indicated the main function of the Vice-Chair was to serve in the absence of the chair and largely conduct business during such an absence. He then asked if anyone was interested in serving as vice-chair.

Commissioner Burger volunteered to serve in this capacity and the remainder of the CSC unanimously accepted her offer to serve as Vice-Chair.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING; Commissioner DalCompo moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Burger. On a voice vote, all aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Hogue

James M. Hogue, Village Planner