

Minutes
Village of Homer Glen
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, August 2, 2016 7:00 p.m.
Village Board Room
14240 W. 151st Street, Homer Glen IL

1. Call to Order

Chairman Sharon Sweas called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Roll Call; Establish Quorum

Present: Nancy Carlson, Randy Juras, Kathy Kudla, Bob Moses, Cynthia Rataj, Margaret Sabo, Sharon Sweas, Joe Turrise, Larry Witsoe, Gary White, Cathy Rehr (Advisor) and Sue Steilen (Staff Liaison).

4. Approval of Amendments to the Agenda

None.

5. Approval of Minutes From Previous Meetings

Motion made by Joe Turrise. Second was made by Randy Juras.

To approve the Tree Sub-committee minutes of January 21, 2016.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Kathy Kudla. Second was made by Joe Turrise.

To approve the Earth Day-Arbor Day Sub-Committee minutes of March 14, 2016, March 30, 2016, and April 20, 2016, and the Environment Committee minutes of May 16, 2016, June 7, 2016, and July 5, 2016.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

6. Public Comment (Limit to 3 minutes)

None.

7. Announcements/Committee Member Communication

- Joe Turrise expressed concern about litter on the roadways in Homer Glen and asked the committee to consider creating an educational program.
- Joe Turrise reported on an article about “environmentally friendly homes.”
- Joe Turrise reported on an article in the Chicago Tribune regarding introducing mountain lions to reduce the number of accidents between deer and motor vehicles.
- Joe Turrise contacted the Homer Horizon and Chicago Tribune about IDOT not installing Deer Crossing signs.
- Bob Moses shared a July 3, 2016, Sun-Times, article “\$100 Fine: Schaumburg Steps Up Ash-Tree Removal Enforcement.”
- Bob Moses reported that Osprey have been seen in Cook County because the water has been cleaned up. He also reported that Chicago is not getting rid of coyotes because the help reduce the rat, geese, and deer population.
- Randy Juras reported on an article in the Homer Horizon about a special “environmentally friendly” house on 167th.

- Randy Juras attended a Homer Glen Area Chamber of Commerce open forum with State Re. Jim Durkin on July 12. Concerns were expressed about signs and driveways. R. Juras felt that wildlife signs could be addressed at one of these forums.
- Sue Steilen reported that the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Chicago is having a naming contest for their locally-produced biosolids.
- Sue Steilen distributed flyers for the Household Hazardous Waste collection to take place at the Village Hall parking lot on September 24.

8. Old Business

a. Homer Glen Parkway Tree Replacement Program and Update

This fall will be the fifth public parkway tree planting. Sue Steilen and Roger Ross are reviewing the Recommended Street Tree List and looking for some trees to add for the fall tree planting. After S. Steilen reviews the list with R. Ross, she will contact Landscape Supply to confirm tree availability for this fall's planting. Letters to residents offering a replacement tree will go out by the first week in September. The contract for planting trees this fall will be presented to the Board for approval at the September 28 Village Board meeting. Sue Steilen would also like to make some suggestions for revising the Standard Operating Procedure Number 11 and will present them to the committee at the October Environment Committee meeting.

b. Community and Nature in Harmony Awards report

Sharon Sweas, Kathy Kudla, Cynthia Rataj, and Sue Steilen reviewed the nominations for a Community and Nature in Harmony award. There is a maximum of 12 awards. There were 11 nominations received. One was disqualified as an uncompleted project and may be viewed again next year. Sue Steilen is also waiting to hear from Shady Oaks to see if there are any scout groups that may qualify for an award.

Motion made by Nancy Carlson, second by Joe Turris:

To accept the list of nominees for a Community and Nature in Harmony award with the possibility of adding scout troops.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Margaret Sabo spoke to Rick Gomez about planting a tree for Homer Glen Lands Day. Mr. Gomez recommended planting an Accolade Elm. Sharon Sweas suggested that a Christmas tree may also be nice for planting. Committee members were asked to think of possible locations for a tree planting and send ideas to Sharon Sweas. Sue Steilen is to ask Roger Ross if there is room for a Christmas/evergreen tree in front of the Village Hall.

c. Earth Day-Arbor Day Review and Update.

The EMA appreciation is the last expense item to be submitted, and the sponsorship check from Meijer is still pending. The following individuals have committed to the sub-committee for Earth Day-Arbor Day: Nancy Carlson, Randy Juras, Cathy Rehr, Sue Steilen, and Sharon Sweas. The sub-committee plans to schedule a meeting in early October.

d. Signage – International Dark Sky

The sign company sent a document with an example of a sign showing different fonts. The Committee preferred a dark blue background over a black background. The font used in example number three was preferred too. Design suggestions included adding a moon and putting the words "World's 4th" at the bottom of the sign.

9. New Business

a. Long Run Creek Watershed

The Township applied for an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency 319 Grant to for the Culver Park Detention Pond Retrofit Project. The purpose of the project is to improve water quality in Long Run Creek. The Village Board sent a letter in support of the grant application.

b. Honey Bees

Will County Beekeepers is interested in speaking about keeping honeybees on public property at an Environment Committee meeting.

Motion made by Larry Witsoe, second by Joe Turris:

To invite the Will County Beekeepers to the October Environment Committee meeting.

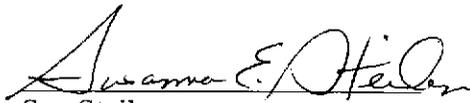
All were in favor. Motion carried.

Sharon Sweas will contact the Beekeepers and invite them the October meeting.

10. Adjournment

Gary White made a motion to adjourn. Second was made by Kathy Kudla. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sue Steilen