



Conservation Committee Minutes May 5, 2022 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Joshua Liberatore, Henry Tomasiewicz, Linda Frank, Meenal Atre, Charles Hagner, Maggie Pipek, Erin Povak; (after calling to order, approx. 7:05) Caroline Kuebler and Natalia Stein joined

Others present: Assistant Village Manager Chris Anderson.

Not present: Elisabeth Witt, Bella Peaslee, Matt McGovern, Donna Pollock

2. Consider Approval of April 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Josh asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes, Motion made by Ms. Povak, seconded by Mr. Tomasiewicz and passed 7-0.

3. Discuss Citizen Concerns

Ms. Atre brought up a concern with a neighbor bagging recyclable items. The single stream recycling is the method used for WM. There is a one pager that exists to help educate new residents. Mr. Liberatore mentioned speaking to DPW Director Butschlick and providing something for the VMM. If this is not a widespread problem, the message to the VMM could suffice.

Issue from Trustee Stokebrand looking at gas powered leaf blowers. Could be coming this June to the committee for consideration. Possible to prohibit them through ordinance (other municipalities have done this). The noise pollution and the high emissions of the two-stroke engine the key issues. A building at Capitol and Oakland hires a landscaping company that uses these types of blowers and are also not considerate of those walking on the sidewalk.

4. Staff Liaison Updates

No report.

5. Pollinator Palooza Planning Update

Mr. Tomasiewicz and Mr. Liberatore ~~has~~ have contacted the 10 organizations that will be attending. Existing literature from Mequon's Arbor Day event yielded a lot of handouts for use at our event. There will be eight picnic tables at the event (3 groups plus the Conservation Committee to have a table at Pollinator Palooza). Plants for exhibition are growing, bird houses are ready, and the pollinator habitats will be ready to go. Friends of Estabrook Park will be staffing the Pollinator Garden. The volunteers will arrive at 10:45 AM (Henry and Josh will be there sooner around 9:00-9:30 AM). The yard survey and handouts also will be shared, and compost crusader information will be available. Staffing of the areas will be: Bee Habitats/Bird Ms. Povak from 10:45 AM-12:30 PM; Ms. Pipek 12:30 PM-2:15 PM. Wildflowers and native perennials: Ms. Frank 10:45 AM-

12:30 PM; Ms. Pollock 12:30 PM-2:15 PM. The rest of the committee will help to promote on social media and talking to folks about it. Ms. Pipek, Ms. Kuebler, and Ms. Witt will share information with the schools. Folks that sign up for the yard survey (how they use their yard, how much time they spend in it, if they have landscapers come, if they use pesticides, etc). will be entered for a raffle prize. The committee asked if there was a stock of raffle tickets at Village Hall? Asst. Village Manager Anderson took this action for follow up. Hometown Habitats website also in the VMM, a flyer exists and can be at the pollinator palooza event. Next week's VMM will include the bird walk and pollinator palooza. The logo/image will be helpful for social media posting.

6. Pesticide Awareness Initiative

Ms. Povak discussed the walking surveys for lawn care and pesticide use. Map made in ArcGIS, volunteers to use the map so observations can be distributed. Volunteers will be walking the blocks, note where there are yard treatment signs to count and record them. As it gets closer to the event, there will be additional instructions. Parcels will be counted leaving off schools. There are datasheets of which information to collect. At the end of the summer, the group will reconvene to share what was found and see if it is desired to continue through October since that is when yard service tends to slow down. Josh is seeing Green Team Organic signage- how are we differentiating from this? If it is easy enough, also collect the name of the service and record on the datasheet. Note any flagging that is seen because it indicates a service was performed- this will tell how widespread the use of pesticides or treatments is on yards. To dig in to more and share about organic yard care- Kim Forbeck is a great resource and can provide additional detail for the committee/community. Ms. Povak will send another push of the information for a final call for volunteers. The committee agreed the sooner the better to start collecting the data. Ms. Frank mentioned the importance of open meetings law and not sending comms to the full group- it needs to go through Village Hall. The committee discussed the importance of having a script in the event people ask what they are doing. It is only for research for the Conservation Committee. The walking survey will be starting in late May.

7. Shorewood Waters Pledge feedback

Kae DonLevy has put a pledge together as part of water health, safety, environmental concerns. There are 15 items on the list which will launch at the Pollinator Palooza event and will be shared at future community events. Of the 15, 10 items focus on pollution and 5 focus on storm water runoff issues. To take the pledge, individuals will select 5 items and commit. Summer of Water action- will be presented to the VB at the next meeting- this is good overlap to the Shorewood Waters pledge and the Pollinator Palooza event. Concern about water and the safety of the lake is a good sell for this and other messaging (pesticide awareness). Ms. Kuebler mentioned that 15 may be a lot to choose from- should this be pared down? The criteria for Bird City Wisconsin has 70+ items. While it is simple and a lot of cities are already doing them, it is overwhelming. Should there be a tiered commitment level for newbies, intermediate, etc.

8. Subcommittee Reports

No reports.

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9. Upcoming Events, Member Topics & Suggestions

May 14 Shorewood Nature preserve bird walk and mustard pull.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Tomaszewicz moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Atré. Vote 9-0 to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chris Anderson
Assistant Village Manager