

**Village of South Barrington**

Cook County, Illinois  
 30 South Barrington Road  
 South Barrington, IL 60010

**Village of South Barrington Conservancy Commission**

Meeting Minutes  
 Thursday, May 14, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Bodkin called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Roll Call:** In attendance:

- Commissioners present: Diane Bodkin, Nancy Munao, Michael Niedzinski, Corinne Chrystall

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from January, February, March, and April were approved.

**Announcements:** Bodkin reported on a meeting with the Regency Landscape Committee in early May. Three persons volunteered to help on workdays, beautifying the Arboretum path. The Park District Prairie Walk is still scheduled for June 16.

| Project and/or Program  | Follow-up Action Owner  | Discussion   |
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| <p><b>OLD BUSINESS</b></p> <p><b>KidFest May 2 Participation</b></p>    | <p>Recommendations:<br/>                     Plan on more supplies, staplers, plates, brushes, containers for leaves to be put at separate stations.<br/>                     Secure two or three more volunteers to give the commissioners a break.<br/>                     Plan for the craft activity at the Scarecrow Walk to help draw kids and attract them.</p> | <p>Chrystall, Munao and Bodkin manned the Conservancy booth and helped over 100 children make pressed leaf note cards for Mother’s Day and relatives. Niedzinski offered the point that the participants enjoyed the activity but probably didn’t relate it to the Conservancy, thus the Conservancy probably didn’t get much public awareness of our preserve. Commissioners agreed that publicizing the Conservancy and raising awareness was one of the goals.</p> <p>Suggestions for improving the project, given the popularity of the activity:<br/>                     To have more, separate stations with their own supplies, to have weighted containers to combat the wind, to tell participants more about the Conservancy, to have the Conservancy stamped on the back of the cards.</p> <p>Commissioners suggesting having a table of card making for the kids at the next Scarecrow Event, the beginning of creating a village event that is more than just the scarecrow Contest.</p> |
| <p><b>Workdays</b><br/> <b>April 22, April 29</b><br/> <b>May 9</b></p> | <p>.</p>  | <p>Members from the Garden Club and the Regency cleared brush from the Indian Grass in the Butterfly Garden and tried to clean up the trees along the Arboretum path.</p>  |

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| <b>Scout Project Observation Deck</b> | Bodkin will alert Moreland of the commission's request, and that Jagmin will be contacting him for help with new blueprints, and notify Munao so she can relay the commissions request to Jagmin. | Munao reported receiving an email from Scout Jagmin requesting change of plans to the deck construction. Jagmin had talked with Mike Moreland, Village Buildings Inspector and would like to change the plans to include a cantilever step feature, to withstand the weather. This change would add additional feet to the overall structure. All commissioners agreed to ask Jagmin to substitute a ramp for the steps in order to make the project platform handicap accessible. The Conservancy is moving toward making the features comply with ADA requirements for public places. Commissioners agreed to help Jagmin with some matching funds in order to make the ramp included in the overall project. |
| <b>Bluebird Monitoring</b>            | Bodkin will continue to monitor the boxes weekly, and if there are hatchlings, she will re-check in a week.   | Bodkin reported of the 10 bluebird nesting boxes, 5 have no nests, and 5 have beautiful nests but no eggs yet. There are several tree swallows guarding the boxes when she comes to monitor.  |
| <b>Maintenance Tree Status</b>        | Niedzinski will check the trees in two weeks to determine any progress. Bodkin will discuss with Village Treasurer the process for clearing and substituting a tree.                              | Niedzinski walked the grounds and reported the Chinquapin Oak is dead, and another possible oak is very weak. Some other trees along the frontage area have dead centers. Commissioners discussed where the funds would come from for replacement of the trees in the arboretum.  |
| <b>Maintenance Broken Water Main</b>  | Bodkin will view the pipe with the company doing the repair and let commissioners know when there is access to the water source again.  | Niedzinski is in communication with Natalie Karney, Village Engineer, concerning the broken water pipe closest to the mound. Commissioners urged expedience due to the need to water the new plants planned for the mound in the very near future.  |
| <b>Maintenance Wagon/carts</b>        | Bodkin will search sales for another wagon, cart to help move plants, dirt and brush on workdays.   | Niedzinski offered his flatbed cart for hauling plants and dirt in a recycle box on the platform. Bodkin added that another cart or wheelbarrow is also needed, as is a tool shed to keep all the garden equipment on site.   |
| <b>Maintenance More Wood Chips</b>    |   | Commissioners agreed on the need for more wood chips to place on the Wildflower Path and possibly more on top of the existing chipped paths. Bodkin reported that she had mentioned this need to Moreland and he will keep in mind with the next village chipping. Bodkin also reported that the Park District was in on the original piles in the parking lot, but that the commission was not made aware of the shared project. Commissioners agree to do the next wood chip accumulation in conjunction with Park District needs.  |
| <b>NEW BUSINESS Mound Plans</b>       |   | Chrystall stated she would like to wait till the water source problem was corrected before buying many plants for the mound, since their continued survival was dependent on the initial regular watering. She would like to transplant some forsythia she discovered in the farthest south area of the Conservancy. Bodkin said she would check to see if that area was Conservancy or Arboretum.  |

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| <p><b>Mound Plans</b></p>                     | <p>Bodkin and Chrystall to confer about plants to buy for the mound.</p>   | <p>Chrystall and Bodkin will confer on the kinds and numbers of plants to buy for the mound. The goal is to have the plants in for viewing for the June 16 Prairie walk. Nledzinski requested having some evergreens in the plans so the mound will not look so barren in winter.</p>   |
| <p><b>Friends of the Conservancy</b></p>      | <p>Bodkin will continue working on layout for the Friends of the Conservancy newsletter.</p>   | <p>Bodkin reported that three of the Regency residents helped on workday pruning trees along the Arboretum path. It was not a happy experience for them with the discovery of many ticks in the area. She was concerned about whether she could convince them to return to help with the Butterfly Garden planting.<br/>Bodkin mentioned the goal of creating an inviting newsletter for emailing to a list of Friends to notify of accomplishments and plans for workdays, extra information, etc. It was suggested to be sure to include the village trustees in the mailing list.</p>  |
| <p><b>OTHER<br/>Revising the Brochure</b></p> | <p>Commissioners will be given the new brochure text as an assignment for July, a month which is often a slow one for action in the Conservancy.</p> | <p>Bodkin stated that the commission needs to begin thinking in earnest about what to put in a new brochure. She added the current brochure is out of date and incorrect in places. This venture would also require an agreement on the logo for the Conservancy. The current logo is a deer somewhat similar to the John Deere logo. Commissioners would like to conduct a contest in the Barrington High School art class to find a new logo that will go on the brochure. Munao also reminded the commission that the art teacher at the high school has been alerted for our request in the fall to help with the publishing of a new brochure.</p> |

**Motion to adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Next meeting June 25, 2015, at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Bodkin, Chairperson