

Village of South Barrington

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

Village of South Barrington Conservancy Commission

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 27, 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, Corinne Chrystall
- Absent: Michael Niedzinski
- Guest: John Jagmin, Eagle Scout candidate, and Dustin Wire

Approval of Minutes: July minutes were approved.

Announcements: Munao reported on her presentation to the Regency Social Committee last month. She brought the scout's mugs and told them about the scout's project and the future plan to make a path to the observation platform that would be easy for handicapped persons to negotiate. None of the attendees donated to the scout's mugs.

Bodkin announced that the Park District scheduled a Conservancy walk for October 13, because they had such a good response to the one in June. The walk is advertised in the Park District's fall brochure. Bodkin will check with Debbie Frederich closer to the date to see how many are attending. Chrystall said she may be out of the country. Bodkin said she felt she could host alone and incorporate some seed collection for extra enjoyment and education.

Bodkin displayed three banners she purchased for use in the Conservancy for various events. One, 8'x3', is to advertise the upcoming Scarecrow Walk. This one will be placed on Conservancy grounds a week before the event. The other two banners are the same size, general ones with the Conservancy name and "A Nature Experience" on them. They can be used for the KidFest sign or other needs, replacing the 5 year old vinyl banner with the deer logo on it. Commissioners present voiced approval of the banners.

Project and/or Program	Follow-up Action Owner	Discussion
PROJECT Scout Jagmin Progress	Jagmin will talk with Mr. Moreland to obtain an official building permit and will send photos to the commissioners of his deck plans. He will also	Eagle Scout candidate John Jagmin gave the commissioners a progress report. He has completed most of the platform itself and this coming week will be working on the railing and steps. Munao stated she had talked with Village Building Inspector Mike Moreland and he stated he needs to have Jagmin file for a official building permit. Bodkin asked Jagmin for a copy of the sketch of the platform, as the commissioners have not yet seen

	talk with the scout friend about getting in touch with the Conservancy to build the blind as his Eagle project.	the drawing. It was approved only by the Building Inspector Mark Nard at the time Jagmin needed to get the holes in the ground before winter came. Jagmin promised to send photos to the commissioners. He also added that he is aware of another scout who is interested in building the blind on Jagmin's platform as the new scout's project. Jagmin added he approves of this scout adding to his work. Jagmin also announced he still intends to create the tree labels out of granite as a practice for learning to use his new engraving machine, but that it would not be part of the Eagle project.
MAINTENANCE Water Hydrant Repair	Bodkin will talk with Mr. Moreland to see what solution he would prefer for the hose bib and watering needs.	Chrystall reported that she has used the new hydrant for watering the next phase of new plants on the mound and has found there is a strong leak at the upper end of the hose bib, such that much water is wasted coming out forcefully at the proximal end and diminishing the force at the distal end and not reaching all the plants. The hose is new and long enough to cover the entire mound if the force of water is intact.
MAINTENANCE Blue Bird Nesting Boxes	Bodkin will clean out the boxes in the coming week or so.	Bodkin reported out of ten bluebird nesting boxes, five had active nests with two tree swallow babies in each. When she checked the boxes three weeks later, the babies were gone and the nests were not disturbed, so it's possible that ten tree swallows fledged. She mentioned that the boxes in the bad Reed Canary field are very hard to monitor, as they are often in deep standing water. Wire stated it would be possible to move those to an easier observation location.
PROJECT Mound Plantings		Chrystall reported the last planting completed this morning by six of the local Garden Club members. About 40 plants were planted in less than an hour. Bodkin enthusiastically commended Chrystall for her brilliance in planning and execution of the plan, to have the holes dug ahead of time and the specific plant or shrub placed beside the hole, for the club member to plant. Chrystall also organized the group to plant a specific area of the mound, and then move on to another area together, so they could enjoy the camaraderie of conversation in close proximity as they worked. This strategy will be used in future projects with several volunteers, so the volunteers will get a fuller fellowship experience. Some of the plants in this final mass planting phase were: Little Blue Stem, Drop seed, Penstemon, Royal Catchfly, Cardinal Lobelia, Crème Baptisia, wild Geranium. Chrystall recommended in the future that coffee be served to the group as some come early and are waiting for the others to arrive. Plans are to fill the extremely large area on the picnic side of the mound in later fall with some tall prairie plants, such as Joe Pye Weed, New England Aster, and Ironweed, and Milkweed.
PROJECTS Distribution of Wood Chips	Bodkin will talk with Bodie and Moreland more specifically about this project, time and scope and expense. Dimonte will also need to be contacted.	Munao reported she talked with Mr. Moreland who said there will be wood chips from about 70 new trees chipped. He asked whether the Conservancy would like the chips dumped in the parking lot. Commissioners talked with Village Treasurer Bodie on site. She said the village already has contracted the vendor to do the chipping. She also said the village would probably be able to pay for Ron DiMonte to do the distributing of the chips on a designated trail. Commissioners agreed to have the chips dumped on the

		<p>parking lot surface toward the north end, closer to the trail they would be distributed on. Plans are to mow the trail to the right of the Scarecrow Trail, now about 6 feet wide, then spray to kill the grass and weeds before laying down 4 inches of chips.</p> <p>Left over chips could be added to the existing trails to enhance them.</p>
<p>Date for Scarecrow Trail October 17-18</p>	<p>Bodkin to secure two outside judges and Munao to ask an art student or teacher.. Bodkin will find the letter from last year and modify it for the commissioners to use this coming week as they approach possible entrants. Bodkin also stated her next door neighbor had mentioned last year she might be able to persuade some new businesses to participate. She will contact neighbor</p>	<p>Commissioners agreed on having outside judges instead of attendees voting on the best entries. The theme of “At the Movies,” promoted as child-friendly movies. It was agreed that the Scarecrow event brings in mostly children and parents with the children, so that it would be prudent to gear the entrant to something attractive for kids. The scary, gory part of scarecrows could be left for another organization to use for attracting viewers. Assignments were given to the commissioners from the entrants from last year: Chrystall: Regency, Bunco Ladies, Fraternal Order of Police, Arboretum, Gigi’s Playhouse: Munao: Animal Hospital, SBL subdivision, Rose PTO, Cub Pack 287, Noah’s Ark, Barrington Methodist Troop 10; Niedzinski: Ryco Landscaping, the Glen homeowners, Individual businesses in the Arboretum: Bodkin: Garden Club, LL Bean, SB Park District, SB Tennis Club, Autumn Leaves, SB Village Staff.</p> <p>Commissioners were urged to start visiting the organizations this coming week to give them time to create their scarecrow scene. It was also suggested to give the potential entrants a list of possible children-friendly movie titles.</p>
<p>PROJECT Winter Buckthorn removal</p>	<p>Bodkin will be publicizing this upcoming workday probably in late October or November, after the foliage is dropped and the branches are easy to see.</p>	<p>Dustin Wire confirmed that the buckthorn branches removed under the cottonwood trees this winter could be piled up in a designated area and later hauled to a burn area in the spring. This strategy would keep the project from being stalled due to location to stack the debris.</p>
<p>MAINTENANCE Dustin Wire’s Spraying schedule</p>	<p>Bodkin to talk with Village Treasurer to find the funds for the needed spraying to keep control of the invasives.</p>	<p>Wire reported he needed to do the last spraying of the season on the cattails in the stream, the phragmites, and the Reed Canary field since there is such good progress already visible there. He will do the spraying this coming weekend. He estimates a cost of about \$460 taking two days to complete.</p> <p>Wire recommends planting plugs, sedges and other field plants in the reed canary field as a stronger plant to push out the RCG. He estimates about 500 plugs are needed to start the process and to hold the gains that have been made in this large 1.5 acre area. Bodkin said she would try to find \$500 to cover the cost of this truly needed restoration expense. Volunteers will be needed to plant the plugs, a new, interesting but rewarding task.</p>

Motion to adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. Next meeting Sept 17, 2015, at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Bodkin, Chairperson