

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
CONSERVANCY COMMISSION
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER by Chairman Bodkin at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

- Commissioners present:
Diane Bodkin, Deb Bachmeier, Aga Razvi
- Commissioners absent: Nancy Munao, Corinne Chrystall

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2018 MINUTES: Motion by Commissioner Munao, seconded by Commissioner Razvi, passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Bodkin announced that a village resident has donated a power lawnmower, used but in good condition, for the Conservancy restoration. It will need a tune up and blade sharpened. Commissioner Razvi recommended that the village write a letter of appreciation recognizing the donation and allowing the donor to fill in a tax -deductible amount. Bodkin will send the request to the Village Finance Officer. Bodkin stated that she intends to store it in the parking lot hut after draining the gasoline out. Jim Bodkin will be the primary person using the mower in the Conservancy. Razvi also mentioned a red riding lawnmower sitting on the Conservancy property south of Bridges Rd. along Bartlett Rd.

Bodkin displayed the recent article on Eagle Scout Jacobs in the February edition of *South Barrington Life* magazine. She commended Commissioner Munao for writing the article and getting the copy in by the deadline for the February issue. The article will be placed in the scrapbook binder of all the *South Barrington Life* articles since the Opening Day in 2010.

Bodkin reported on her attendance at a seminar on Volunteer Leadership given by Morton Arboretum. She felt the positive take-aways were suggestions for a successful workday with volunteers and a successful program through social media for recruiting and education. She vowed to do more delegating of tasks and to intensify efforts to create a monthly newsletter for persons interested in the Conservancy's activities.

AGENDA :

I. MAINTENANCE:

A. BURN:

Bodkin reported the Board of Trustees approved the request for \$3500 for the controlled burn to be done sometime after the middle of March. She reported she has been in email communication with Jay Vojtsek at the Park District to allow some extra time in the afternoon to complete the one-day burn schedule. The village will be notified a few days ahead of the burn day in order to notify residents near by and to put up signs and send out notices. Bodkin talked with Applied Ecological Services can burn the area closest to the sports park first.

C. SEDGE MEADOW:

Bodkin reported that Village Engineer Karney is working on re-applying for the Openlands/ComEd grant for planting sedges and wildflowers in the Sedge. She is using photographs from the 2017 planting to send the final report to the grant committee to fulfill last year's requirements. This year's plan requests \$600 from the village with matching from Com/Ed to be used for Dustin Wire's services as liaison to Taylor Creek Nurseries procuring the plants, as well as transporting them and expediting the planting. Razvi will talk with Wire about discounts on the plant order. Razvi could transport plants. Bodkin reported she has a possibility of planting help from four girl scout volunteers eager to work on their Silver Girl award. They will need 50 hours on this project but could fill in with other tasks in the Conservancy such as planting native plants in other areas. Bodkin will meet with the troop advisers after the burn when the designated area is more defined. Razvi added possibility of adding extra plantings and working on the rock stream if more hours are needed.

II. CAPITAL PROJECTS

A. ENTRANCE MOUND:

Commissioner Razvi reminded commissioners of his purchase of lupine seeds to be planted on the mound and in other areas of the conservancy, such as along the swale banks and wildflower gardens. Razvi stated early April would be the best time to plant. He will supervise the planting.

B. STONE STREAM FOR EROSION CONTROL:

Commissioner Razvi outlined a plan for a curved terraced walkway around the sides of the mound leading to the top. He suggested incorporating this walkway with the existing plans for a stone stream down the front side. He and Commissioner Chrystall will collaborate on a plan.

C. HANDICAP PATH TO OBSERVATION DECK:

Bodkin reported that she had conferenced with the Mayor who stated the village wouldn't think \$33,000 was good use of the village's money, in that the walkway would only be used by a small number of residents. The Mayor said the village contracting for road work soon and it might be possible to incorporate a digging and laying of a lesser expense material such as crushed gravel. Commissioners approved of this material and test of usage on the path. The Mayor will alert the commission if the roadwork company agrees to work in the Conservancy.

Members agreed that a temporary path needs to be dug quite deep in order for a substantial level of gravel to be laid on top. Razvi suggested ash from a power plant as a possibility for use, stating he has used it before and is familiar with its characteristics. Bodkin reported discussing the path with the United States American Disabilities Act office; their only response was that the material must be "firm, stable, and slip resistant." Because ash is a waste, the village may have to get approval from the EPA.

III. PROGRAMS

A. ARBOR DAY REPORT:

Bodkin reported the Mayor and the Board of Trustees are happy with the plans for the upcoming Arbor Day celebration with the Tree walk and Jeff Andross, the Johnny Appleseed impersonator and activities for children planting apple seeds and a small shrub atop the mound. She displayed a mock up of the revised "Tree Walk" brochure with four inside panels with tree facts and the back of the brochure to be a map to scale of the Conservancy with correct placement of trails, trees, and streams, and bench and huts. Razvi suggested adding pictures of the tree shape and the leaf beside the name as a learning tool for kids using the brochure. The brochure has several clip art leaves on the panels. Bodkin will talk with Bodie about adding more leaf images. Jim Bodkin and Village Treasurer Michelle Bodie are working on the graphics to send to the professional print shop before April 20.

C. SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT SUMMER SCHOOL CLASS:

Plans for this class were tabled due to Munao's absence. Razvi states he is expecting to hear from Munao to visit Dr. Becky Gill together at District 220.

NEW BUSINESS

Bodkin showed the commissioners a copy of the newly revised budget that is on a Path for approval but the Board.. She will get copies for the commissioners to have for reference.

Bachmeier reminded the commissioners that she has a friend who is interested in helping volunteer with planting. Commissioners encouraged Bachmeier to invite her to an interesting group activity when the "Showcase" area is scheduled.

Bodkin stated she will be planning to work in the area on March 18 weekend.

She stated Dustin Wire may chainsaw some trees before that date, and other commissioners are welcomed to lop, haul, and rake on their own schedule.

Razvi and Bodkin agreed to meet at the site on Saturday afternoon to review tasks for individual's workdays.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Next meeting will be March 15, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Bodkin, Chairperson