

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
CONSERVANCY COMMISSION
THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER by Chairman Bodkin at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

- Commissioners present:
Diane Bodkin, Nancy Munao, Corinne Chrystall, Deb Bachmeier, Aga Razvi
Guest: Trustee Bernard Kerman

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2018 MINUTES: Motion made by Commissioner Chrystall, seconded by Commissioner Munao. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 2018 MINUTES: Motion made by Commissioner Chrystall, seconded by Commissioner Munao. Motion approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair Bodkin welcomed Trustee Kerman and thanked him for his interest in the Conservancy. Trustee Kerman announced that the Village just hired a new Webmaster for the Village Website. The Village hopes the Conservancy will be one of the features and has asked Bodkin for some of her photos of events in the Conservancy.

Commissioner Munao announced she was honored at a retirement dinner last week for her nineteen years of service in the schools of District 220.

Bodkin displayed the article on the second Conservancy burn in the May edition of South Barrington Life magazine. The article on the Summer School Science Class will have to wait till the August edition because most of the event takes place after the June deadline. Commissioners agreed that an article with a theme of summer activities in the Conservancy would be a good submission for July. Bodkin will write the article and include some photos from past summers.

Trustee Kerman announced the Village is holding a special meeting on Crime Prevention on June 21 which would be the commission's regular meeting date. Commissioners agreed that a quorum would be available for rescheduling for Tuesday, June 19. Bodkin will confirm with the village.

Bodkin also announced she would be on vacation from June 21- July11. She can receive emails but would not have cell phone coverage.

AGENDA :

I. CAPITAL PROJECTS

A. SHOWCASE GARDEN:

Bodkin gave an update, stating that most of the 160' area has been cleared of brush and cut branches, but the buckthorn is returning and needs to be treated with herbicide. She will talk with Dustin Wire about intense spraying.

Bodkin announced that the Jagmins have erected a metal plaque on the inner post of the observation platform. It is a classy plaque with son John's name, Troop 29, the Wetland Platform Project, and date 2016. Bodkin reported she has emailed Mrs. Jagmin for information on the plaque so the Commission can purchase two more for the ramp and the garden to match the platform plaque.

In discussing plantings in the Showcase area, Bodkin stated some of the Garden Club donation of \$1000 will be used for the native shrubs on the backline of the landscaping. She hoped the donation from attorney Don Storino's firm would go toward a professional landscaper's plan for the garden. Commissioner Chrystall will talk with Midwest Groundcover about designer services. Munao will talk with Northwind in Wisconsin. Bodkin will talk with the Village about the landscape architect the Village uses. Commissioner Razvi cautioned the commission, stating it would be prudent to determine a budget amount to be spent on plants before talking with the services. Razvi agreed to help with the calculation.

B. ENTRANCE MOUND:

Commissioner Chrystall lamented the extreme problem with the thistles. Commissioner Razvi recommended Weed-B-Gone to eradicate woody weeds.

Razvi recommended creating a French Drain to help with the erosion on the incline from the large amount of recent rain. Chrystall will experiment with pipe and rock.

C. EAST GARDEN:

Bodkin reported hundreds of healthy milkweed plants in the East Garden cropping up from the burn. She voiced hopes of seeing Monarchs and caterpillars. The Scarecrow field is also a large habitat of milkweed for the Monarchs this season.

Razvi added that he brought 6 pounds of Lupine seeds that need to be sown soon. Bodkin stated there are many open areas in the East Garden just waiting for the Lupine seeds. Razvi and Bodkin will sow the seeds in the coming weeks in time before the rains.

III. PROGRAMS

A. SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT SUMMER SCHOOL CLASS:

Commissioners Munao and Razvi hosted a walk through the Conservancy with Dr. Becky Gill, Director of Curriculum for District 220. They reported that she was very pleased with the Conservancy as a new field trip site for the upcoming Summer School Science Class, as well as for other outings for elementary classes, middle school and high school classes, and Jeff Andruss' survival training classes. Razvi and Munao will present their Soil and Water class between June 4-28.

B. BLUEBIRD BOXES: Fran Frain reports three nesting boxes with bluebird eggs and two babies. Bodkin will try to take photos.

C. MEETING WITH REGENCY/WOODS

Bodkin met with Jason Mitchell, Property Manager of Woods/Regency and Joanne Eder, Social Director, at Mitchell's initiative. They discussed possible educational benefits, such as photography, tree identification, and health walks in the Conservancy for the Woods/Regency residents. Bodkin voiced hope that Eder could help the Conservancy in publicizing events and promoting participation from the residents. Commissioners also mentioned re-connecting with L.L.Bean's "Meetup" program for help in Conservancy maintenance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chrystall reported the teasel may be creeping in the sumac areas on the Arborteum path. Bodkin will ask resident Al Saller for help in trimming and weeding the areas.

Bodkin restated the need to make the Police Dept aware of someone bringing liquor bottles after weekends to dump in the Conservancy trash cans. She stated the physical demands that lifting these bags places on the Park District employee who empties the trash cans. She also stated that families seeing the bottles in the cans does not reflect well on the Conservancy. Trustee Kerman was surprised at the news. Bodkin stated she had notified Chief Roman twice about a possible deer monitor but received no response. She will try again.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Munao, seconded by Commissioner Bachmeier.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.
Next meeting will be June 19, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Bodkin, Chairperson

Post commission meeting events:

Dustin phoned Bodkin May 29 to say he had sprayed the Sedge Meadow and sees no Reed Canary left. He was out of town and could not attend the commission meeting.

He feels the plants are doing very well. Bodkin asked him to spray the Showcase Garden a couple of times this summer before planting can be done. Before his spraying, Bodkin will try to rake the small debris on the ground into large piles to be used for natural mulch later after plants are planted in the area.

Village Finance Officer announced that Sue Ardizzone, Records Clerk in the Police Dept., offered to do face painting for the children at the Scarecrow Event.

Michelle Bodie talked with the Mayor about asking the village landscape architect to help with the Showcase Garden. She will let us know the result. She also stated she felt the Conservancy should consider \$5000 for the work in the Showcase Gardens, planting and labor. There are funds for this type of project.

Commissioners Bodkin and Razvi sowed 2 lbs. of Lupine seeds in the East Garden and on the Southeast Slope of the Entrance Mound Wednesday morning before the rain. Bodkin will add one more pound of seeds all over the Southeast Slope that is most visible from the road. She will time it before it rains. The remaining 3 lbs. is planned along the main path past the Pollinator Garden and along the Scarecrow Field that borders Bridges Drive.

Bodkin talked with Ron DiMonte about transplanting some of the peonies from Klehm's Nurseries in front of the stone Conservancy sign on Bartlett. He suggested waiting till after the blooms are complete, then cutting the plant to about a foot above the ground before digging up to transplant. That way the plant could send all energy into building strong roots instead of trying to maintain the tall stems.