

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**CONSERVANCY COMMISSION**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2018**  
**7:00 P.M.**

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

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MAY 2018 MINUTES:** Motion made by Commissioner Razvi, seconded by Commissioner Bachmeier. Motion approved.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Chair Bodkin announced she would be on vacation from June 21- July11.

She can receive emails but would not have cell phone coverage. She asked commissioners to walk the Conservancy grounds for trash pickup in her three weeks of absence.

Razvi will take the first week June 23-30. Bachmeier will take July 1- 7.

Munao will take July 8-14.

**AGENDA :**

**I. SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT SUMMER SCHOOL CLASS**

Commissioners Munao and Razvi reported on the successful science class conducted today on the Conservancy grounds. There were two sessions, between 8:30 and 11:30 am, with about 42 R 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders attending. Ron Bergquist , science teacher, and Jeff Andruss, wilderness teacher, accompanied their classes.

Bodkin attended the sessions as photographer and commended the commissioners on an outstanding set of two classes with academic teaching on the students' level of understanding, intermixed with enjoyable experiments that reinforced the teachings well. The students enjoyed the hands-on aspect of the classes. Simulating the effect of rain splashing on the soil, the digging deep to get clay for students could see the profile, and giving the opportunity to feel textures of sand, sandpaper, muck, top soil and subsoil were all excellent teaching aids.

Commissioners voiced the hope that the students would be more thoroughly prepped ahead of time when the class is redone in the future, so kids would understand the reason for special clothing and would expect to get dirty. Munao reported that Dr. Becky Gill, Curriculum Director for District 220, was impressed with the class, the experiments and the setting. She would like to consider the Conservancy for a setting for future field trips for middle school and possibly high school students.

Razvi recommended the commission consider a proposal to District 220 to talk with teachers and make the Conservancy a lab for what the teachers want to teach. A possible plan would be to incorporate the restoration needs of various areas of the Conservancy into class instruction. Improvements to the Conservancy would be part of the science classes.

## **II. GARDENS**

- A. Showcase Garden:** Bodkin reported a phone call with Dustin Wire stating he could spray the Showcase area this coming weekend and possibly another treatment to get the buckthorn under better control. He also recommended planting a density of Penn Sedge to help take over the area usually usurped by the invasives. He will check on number of plants and cost.
  
- B. East Garden:** Bodkin reported that all the hundreds of Swamp milkweeds she thought were in the garden are really Dogbane, a prolific imposter. There are a few common milkweeds sprinkled throughout. The best plan will be to harvest the seeds in the fall and scratch in to the soil nearby. Bodkin also reported that she and Commissioner Razvi planted two pounds of Lupine seeds in the garden, and some of the small seedling show signs of success.
  
- C. Mound:** Bodkin reported collecting three large plastic bags of weeds on the top of the mound. She said she chose to pull the weeds instead of herbicide, to have a nice finished look instead of brown dead weeds in between the good flora. Commissioners agreed the next best practice would be to spot spray the small weeds that are emerging before they become overpowering. Razvi and Bodkin also sowed 2 pounds of Lupine seeds on the southeast front of the mound where there is a known difficulty getting seeds and plants to thrive. The goal of having beautiful blue in the front area kept them going.

Razvi suggested short Daisies to be placed in between the blue Speedwell Plants, and possibly some Black-eyed Susans to carry into the fall. Commissioners discussed the proposed Stone Stream, and all agreed that work needs to be done very soon, as much of the top soil is eroding and collecting at the bottom of the mound. Bodkin will talk with Commissioner Chrystall about a time line and possible extra help from the commissioners in order to accomplish the project without more loss of soil.

**D. Pollinator and Butterfly Gardens:** Bodkin lamented the fact that these two gardens have been neglected, due to the need to put main focus on the Showcase Garden project. She reported that Dustin Wire has been working in the Butterfly garden to keep the Indian Grass under control. The Butterfly Garden was burned in May, so all the plants are new since then. The Pollinator Garden was not burned and now is dense Goldenrod, with some forbs scattered throughout. The four Bur Oaks planted are doing well but could use some nutrients. The Serviceberry and Button Bush from a year ago survived the winter but are very weak. Bodkin will ask her husband to mow the area to give the desired forbs a chance to grow without invasive interaction.

### **III. SCARECROW EVENT PLANNING (September 22-30)**

Bodkin opened the discussion stating that local real estate agent Denise D'Amico, in a recent panel presentation at Village Hall, mentioned the Scarecrow Event as one of the Village's proud annual resident attractions. Bodkin added this year will be the 7<sup>th</sup> year of the event. She reported that signs and publicity have traditionally been the weakest area. Also the number of entries has diminished some.

Commissioners all agreed last fall to give this new event enthusiastic early activity, meeting with potential businesses and organizations in July to give them time to create ideas. The theme this year will be "Children's Books." There will be several special events this year for kids. Sue Ardizzone from the Police Dept. has volunteered to do face painting, and Commissioner Bachmeier's granddaughter Bryanna has volunteered to be the Special Children's Books Reader again this year. She will be reading the books used by

the organizations for their scarecrows. The Village is sponsoring Glowby the Bubbler for an hour and half the first day for kids, and adults to have a good time making giant soap bubbles.

Commissioners present agreed to talk with businesses and organizations from last year and new ones this year to enlist their participation in the Scarecrow Walk. If businesses cannot give staff to help, commissioners may ask them to Donate funds for special signage or refreshments or to underwrite the Bubbler. The logo and names of their business or company would be printed on the program handed to each attendee.

Attached is the list of past participants, the ones who declined last year. Some Commissioners have already selected the organizations they would like to invite and encourage participation.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioners suggested having a geocaching event at the Conservancy. Razvi was aware of GPS units for kids and the process of learning coordinates and tracking them to find a hidden treasure. Bodkin will talk with L L Bean Jeanie Ziegler to see how feasible it would be for L L Bean to sponsor this event. There is also a local/regional geocaching game where a location registers and becomes a recognized location for a geocache. Conservancy commissioners will also research this new possibility.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Bodkin, Chairperson

**Last Year's Entries Theme: "It's About Time!"**

Rose Elementary	Once Upon a Time
Hoffman Estates Animal Hospital	Suppertime
Stillman Nature Center	Learn from the OwlMan
Barrington Ladies Bunco	Time to Sing Along
South Barrington Garden Club	It's About Thyme!
Noah's Ark Academy	Back to the Future
L L Bean	Trash Talk
GiGi's Playhouse	Look What We've Become!
Ryco Landscaping	It's About Time the Cubs Won
Autumn Leaves Memory Care	Time to Remember
South Barrington Park District	No Time to Be a Couch Potato
South Barrington Village Hall	Halftime
Arboretum Management	Time to Visit Santa and Ice Skate

**Declines:**

Mathnasium  
Papadakis Photography  
Bravo Talent  
Dr. Shandley, DDS  
South Barrington Police Dept.  
Holy Family Academy  
Pinstripes  
Willow Creek Community Church Care Center - Cheryl Rost, Barb Dewaard  
BMO Harris  
Mooney Lyons, Nadine Scheider  
Denise D'Amico ReMax  
College and Nannies and Tutors

**Nancy agree to contact:**

Gigi's Playhouse  
Rose Elementary PTO  
Grove Elementary  
Mathnasium  
Dr. Shandley  
Barrington Middle School

**Aga will contact:**

BMO Harris  
Mooney Lyons  
College Tutors  
Ryco Landscaping  
Papadakis Photography  
Bravo Talent  
Cotswold Manor HOA  
Other HOA's

**Diane will contact:**

SB Garden Club  
Autumn Leaves  
South Barrington Park District  
South Barrington Village Hall Staff  
South Barrington Police Dept.

**Deb will contact:**

Willow Creek Care Center  
Pinstripes  
Denise D'Amico  
The Regency/Woods

**Corinne will contact:**

Barrington Ladies Bunco  
South Barrington Lakes HOA  
Barrington Pools

