

**Beautification Task Force
Minutes of the Meeting
January 13, 2010
Conference Room – Memorial Building**

The meeting of the Beautification Task Force was held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 in the Conference Room of the Memorial Building and was called to order at 12:15 p.m.

Present: Brian McElwain, Dr. Joe Ryne, Penny Bohnen, Candy Cleveland, Nancy McKeague

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Horticulturalist Dan Hopkins, Village Forester John Finnell, Director of Public Services George Franco

Approval of Minutes

The Beautification Task Force reviewed the minutes from the November 18, 2009 meeting. Dr. Ryne moved to approve the minutes of November 18th, 2009 meeting. Ms. Cleveland seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Update on Tribute Tree Program

Ms. Cleveland reported on the status of the program and stated the Hinsdale Nursery recently changed advertising firms so pricing for tree tags and other items at this time were not available. She also discussed the Tribute Tree Program and stated it was showcased in the recent Village newsletter. Dr. Ryne stated a draft drawing with the Village slogan and design was created in an electronic version and could be possibly used for the tree tags and other items. The Beautification Task Force discussed the options of creating a pamphlet to be distributed to Village residents. They discussed the content and pictures that could be included in the document and pricing of the pamphlet. Given the current cuts in the budget, Ms. Bohnen suggested try and get a volunteer to create the pamphlet. She provided examples from Emmanuel Hall pamphlets that were created by volunteers and stated the quality was very close to a pamphlet that was created by a professional.

Dr. Ryne discussed a tree plan the Village of Burr Ridge currently has with ComEd to protect trees during maintenance and construction on power lines. He stated he would try and research their policy for the next scheduled meeting. General discussion continued over the layout and coloring of the logo that will be included on the tree tags and also content that could be included in the informational pamphlet. Chairman McElwaine suggested that the content to be included in the pamphlet should be ready for discussion by the next meeting and requested the task force members to work on this in between the next meeting date.

Tree Protection

Dr. Ryne updated the task force on this agenda item and briefly reported on his meeting with Trustee Laura LaPlaca over when this subject would be discussed at an Environment and Public Services Committee meeting. Given the current large EPS Committee agendas she suggested that this discussion should take place in February.

Ms. Cleveland questioned why the Village of Glenview was used as the primary example for the Village to use. Mr. Finnell stated the Village of Glenview has a very detailed and straightforward policy unlike other examples he looked at and felt a policy similar to this would fit the Village best. Ms. Cleveland expressed her concerns with the chart in the Glenview example and questioned if that part could be changed. Mr. Finnell stated the Glenview ordinance was only an example and changes could be made throughout the document pending review from the Village Attorney and discussion from various task forces, committees, and ultimately the Village Board.

Dr. Ryne expressed his concerns over the tree chart in the Glenview example and suggested this area be changed to clear up any confusion and make it easier to understand. The Beautification Task Force discussed the removal of trees and the legality of items that could arise if the Village enforces tree protection laws. Mr. Finnell provided examples of the cost of removing a tree depending on the size and also provided more information regarding the actual law and potential for lawsuits the Village could face. Mr. Franco provided information regarding a plan to enforce a tree ordinance on private property in 2004 that was withdrawn due to resident concerns. Mr. McElwain suggested to plan a workshop meeting with the EPS Committee in order to educate the Committee on this subject so they are prepared for the discussion of this item once it comes to the Committee meeting.

Mr. Finnell continued to provide information to the Beautification Task Force regarding the steps needed in order for the Village to create an ordinance and plans for a tree protection plan. General discussion took place over the draft tree protection plan and the next steps needed in order to continue working until a final draft could be adopted. Mr. McElwain questioned if a consultant was needed in order to help create the tree protection plan. Mr. Franco suggested the first step should be to meet with the EPS Committee to see if this is going to be a feasible project and if the Committee will have enough time to take on this item. He questioned the amount of staff time that would be needed and also the time needed to enforce this ordinance. Mr. Finnell stated additional information would be needed in order to see how other communities have handled the citation of tickets and the outcome of court cases. The Beautification Task Force agreed to try and schedule a future meeting with the chairman of the EPS Committee to present information regarding the tree protection plan.

Landscape Plans for Train Station

Mr. Hopkins provided figures for the cost of plant material for the train station and stated a final decision will not be needed for a couple of months until the planting season approaches in the spring. He stated the Hinsdale Nursery is currently closed and more quotes will become available as the spring approaches.

Adjournment

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote taken, all in favor, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Ragona
Administrative Intern