

**Beautification Task Force
Minutes of the Meeting
February 26, 2010
Conference Room – Memorial Building**

The meeting of the Beautification Task Force was held on Wednesday, February 26, 2010 in the Conference Room of the Memorial Building and was called to order at 3:18 p.m.

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Trustee Saigh, Trustee Angelo, John Finnell, Village Forester; Dan Hopkins, Village Horticultuarists; and George Franco, Director of Public Services.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for February 10, 2010 were presented for approval. Minor errors were corrected and the content was addressed to ensure accuracy of the meeting. Dr. Ryne motioned for the approval of the minutes from February 10, 2010. Mr. McElwain seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Mr. Finnell provided recap from discussions from the last Beautification Task Force meeting and updated the members on the new tree protection documents that have been drafted. He summarized the changes that have been proposed by the task force and touched on certain regulations that the task force felt would better suit the Village.

Dr. Ryne questioned the costs that should be associated for certain sizes of tribute trees and special locations around the Village. The task force felt having a wide variety of prices was needed in order to give everyone in the Village a chance to participate in this program.

Ms. Cleveland motioned for the approval of changes to the tree protection document to lower the sizes in Class A, B, and C to 8 inches, 10 inches, and 20 inches respectively. Mr. McElwain seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. McElwain motioned for the approval to change the fee

schedule of the Tribute Tree document to accommodate a higher fee of \$2,500 and up compared to the current language of \$3,000 to \$10,000 on the form. Dr. Ryne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Task Force discussed information regarding the Village of Glenview's tree protection informational guideline document. Mr. Finnell stated minor changes will be addressed once the draft is finished including the sizing of trees and contact information and how to present this information to the EPS Committee. They discussed how to address fines and costs of tree replacements and how their needs to be a balance for the ordinance to be effectively used.

They also analyzed how the rules and regulations of this ordinance will be enforced and that raised several questions regarding the sizing and numbers of trees that will be needed to be purchased when a tree is taken down. Mr. McElwain suggested a few exercises of this proposed draft should be used on lots in the Village to determine if any feasibility issues arise. A rough estimate was prepared by Mr. Finnell and \$10,600 for class A, class B \$8,500, and for class C \$5,300 will be paid to the Village for trees that are cut down.

Ms. McKeague enters at 3:57 p.m.

Dr. Ryne questioned the method and calculation for the costs for the replacement of trees. Mr. Finnell stated this format will be in the best interest of the Village to use for determining the cost for cutting trees down.

Trustee Saigh enters at 4:05 p.m.

The Task Force engaged in discussion regarding the Tribute Tree logo and the upcoming exposure from an upcoming advertising campaign by the Hinsdale Nursery in the Hinsdalean newspaper.

General discussion took place over when the next scheduled meeting could be held on. After deliberation the next scheduled meeting will be held on March 10, 2010.

Mr. Finnell presented information about the proposed tree protection standards, rules and regulations to the task force and Village Trustees. He referenced information taken from 38 other communities in a survey completed in 2008. He stated in his findings regulations in certain communities have become even tighter since the survey from 2008 was completed. Out of the 38 communities from the survey, 16 have tree protection ordinances, but because of ease of use and characteristics that would suit Hinsdale, the Village of Glenview was chosen as a model to draft

ordinance. He discussed the different applications and forms Glenview uses and the ease of understanding the rules and regulations

He touched on certain specifications that will be included in the tree standards manual including the classifications of trees and the types of categories that will break down each kind of tree.

The issue of Enforcement was looked at and the challenges that could be faced. Mr. Finnell provided examples of how other communities have handled the enforcement of tree protection and discussed ways the Village could enforce this. The goal is to preserve trees not to raise revenue to the Village.

Trustee Saigh questioned what the SEG report came up with regarding resident concerns with a private tree preservation ordinance. The Task Force stated according to the report no resident concerns were identified.

Trustee Angelo expressed his support for a tree ordinance for both public and private trees in the Village. The enforcement aspect of this tree ordinance were continued to be discussed. Mr. Finnell stated each Village is different depending on the type of government, staff levels, and importance of tree preservation in each community.

Ms. Bohnen enters.

Trustee Angelo stated that approved contractors, developers, and tree service companies should be notified in order to educate them on the rules and regulations. Discussion also took place regarding the allocation of funds from money collected from fines and fee in lieu.

Trustee Saigh expressed his concerns with the enforcement of certain policies in the Village. He used an example of private property and questioned how the Village would enforce the ordinance. Trustee Angelo stated tickets and fines can be issued until the homeowner complies with the Village.

Mr. Finnell gave examples for the costs associated with removing certain types of mature trees and the sizes associated with them

General discussion continued to determine where and how to allocate funds from fines and fees collected from this plan and how the appeals process would work as well as the permit process. Mr. Finnell stated the proposed appeals process would go to the Village Manager first, than EPS Committee, and than finally the Village Board if an agreement has not been met.

Trustee Saigh questioned if there is a section to this ordinance regarding damage to trees from storms and other safety reasons. Mr. Finnell stated a permit would not be needed for this type of request and it would listed in the exceptions and exemptions portion of the ordinance.

Mr. Franco stated from a staff perspective, a part time arborists may need to be hired to enforce this ordinance and the possibility of a permit fee could be instituted to cover these costs.

Trustee Angelo stated the Village looks very different when looking at trees and the introduction of a tree ordinance will help preserve the character of the Village.

Dr. Ryne updated the Trustee Saigh and Trustee Angelo regarding the tribute tree program and stated a brochure is currently under production to help raise awareness on the program.

Ms. McKeague questioned how the upcoming Garfield construction will have an effect on the trees in the parkway. Mr. Finnell stated contractors will be working with Public services to ensure the least amount of disturbance possible to the trees.

Dr. Ryne reported on information he received from the Mayor of Burr Ridge and stated they set up an agreement regarding the preservation of trees during construction work conducted and questioned if the Village could take advantage of a similar agreement. He also questioned the railroad procedures during pruning of trees on railroad property. Mr. Finnell stated the Village has no jurisdiction on trees owned by the railroad at this time.

Adjournment

With no further issues to be brought before the Committee, Dr. Ryne motioned to adjourn. Ms. McKeague seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Ragona
Administrative Intern