



**THE VILLAGE OF HAWTHORN WOODS
SPECIAL HAWTHORN WOODS IN BLOOM COMMITTEE MEETING
2 LAGOON DRIVE, HAWTHORN WOODS, ILLINOIS
MAY 22, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

I. WELCOME

Ms. Masana called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. Roll call indicated the following members were present: Bob Riddle, Samina Imtiaz, Farah Laman, Tosi Ufodike, Lauren Vondrasek, Megan Masana, Melissa Romeo, Margo Pelak and Beryl Ibbotson. Absent were Beth Ann Dodge, Susan Bender, Laurel Kaiser, Richard Kirshner, and Patrick Raftery.

Also present were Chief Operating Officer Pamela Newton, Chief Administrative Officer and Village Clerk Donna Lobaito, Parks and Recreation Director Brian Sullivan, and Trustee James W. Kaiser.

Laurel Kaiser arrived at 6:08 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED APRIL 24, 2019

Motion by Ufodike, second by Vondrasek to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2019 Hawthorn Woods In Bloom Committee.

Upon a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None this month.

IV. STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Sullivan reported that Richard Kirshner donated milkweed plants to the Village, and Openlands and Hawthorn Gardens provided plants as well. Public Works will install flower boxes at Village Hall.

Ms. Newton asked committee members to take photos when working in the parks. She also noted that so far, 6 volunteers have come forward for the Adopt-A-Park program. The Arbor Day tree giveaway was mentioned in the Village's weekly e-blast. Ms. Newton also reported that the Village received several pieces of equipment as a result of the running of an article about preserving Hawthorn Woods' heritage. An article will run regarding volcano mulching. There will be an upcoming newsletter article and e-blast regarding Excellence in Gardening in the Village. Mr. Riddle and Ms. Masana will be the judges and

three monthly prizes will be awarded with the winners being invited to the Village Board meeting in the months of July through October for recognition.

Ms. Lobaito reminded the members about the Open Meetings Act.

V. UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF JUDGES' RECOMMENDATION LIST FOR HAWTHORN WOODS

To keep on task, Ms. Masana sent a spreadsheet to the chairs regarding the work that needs to be completed before the judges arrive.

VI. DISCUSSION OF TREE TRUNK PLANTERS AND CALL FOR VOLUNTEER LIST TO SECURE PLANTER LOCATIONS AT AREA BUSINESSES

Ms. Ibbotson's suggestion of tree trunk planters was discussed. The Village will solicit businesses to take care of several tree trunk planters at their locations. The goal is to move towards residential tree trunk planters.

VII. BREAK OFF INTO SMALL WORKGROUP DISCUSSIONS

The Committee broke into small workgroups to discuss their areas of interest.

VIII. WORKGROUP REPORTS: INITIATIVES, IDEAS, PLANS

Each workgroup reported on their initiatives, ideas and plans:

Ms. Riddle contacted Country Bumpkin and Hawthorn Gardens to offer a Hawthorn Woods In Bloom package. Country Bumpkin has not returned Mr. Riddle's call, but Hawthorn Gardens will offer a package. Mr. Riddle also reported that Helen Oliveri will lend her popcorn machine to the committee to sell popcorn in the park. He is still working on his idea of a flea market and car show.

Ms. Masana reported on history preservation. She met with Ela Township and asked to be connected to their website. She has made contact with a Potawatomi Tribe and the Lake County Discovery Museum and will touch base with St. Matthew's next week.

Ms. Ufodike and her group met several times and toured the parks with Mr. Sullivan. The committee came up with watering procedures and will forward them to Ms. Newton for her review. They are still in need of additional volunteers.

In Ms. Bender's absence, Ms. Masana reported on urban forestry. The committee would like to expand our inventory to include conifers and identify them with interpretive signage.

Ms. Masana noted that Ms. Pelak promoted the milkweed plants that were donated by Mr. Kirshner. Ms. Ibbotson introduced her friend who was in attendance at the meeting. She asked that the tree trunk planters be used at the police station.

Ms. Laman left the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Ms. Vondrasek reported on engaging the Hawthorn Woods Country Club to open activities to the committee, YMCA discounts, replicating the health newsletter and working with the Wellness Committee on the benefits of gardening. Their committee wants to identify key places to visit each month, such as trails in the Village. They have talked about a bike to work program, and a walk or bike to school program.

Ms. Pelak reported that there will be an America In Bloom spotlight in the July newsletter. She continues to write news releases. She will highlight the Garden of the Month winners, and will contribute towards the e-blast on watering. She will promote the Monarch waystations, and issue a news release regarding the visiting America In Bloom judges.

Ms. Kaiser, Ms. Romeo and Ms. Laman will be working together to plant the planter boxes. Ms. Kaiser recommended the Village secure some Cheyenne Spirit echinacea for the parks. Plantings will take place by the farm implements at Village Hall. Ms. Kaiser spoke about the use of rain gardens and the formation of a Hawthorn Woods Garden Club.

IX. NEXT STEPS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meetings will be June 26, 2019, July 24, 2019, then every other month.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Masana, second by Pelak to adjourn the meeting.

Voice vote.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 5

Motion carried.

The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna Lobaito
Village Clerk

