



**THE VILLAGE OF HAWTHORN WOODS
HAWTHORN WOODS IN BLOOM COMMITTEE MEETING
2 LAGOON DRIVE, HAWTHORN WOODS, ILLINOIS
MARCH 22, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was held via Zoom.

Ms. Vondrasek called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Roll call indicated the following members were present: Beryl Ibbotson, Bob Riddle, Lauren Vondrasek, Farah Laman, Karen Johanson, Sally Folkes, and DiAnn Meagher. Absent were Samina Intiazi, Margo Pelak, Appaji Valavala, Pam Scaletta and Megan Masana.

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

Ms. Lobaito noted that due to the ongoing pandemic and the governor's executive order, it is impractical to meet in person; therefore, the meeting was being held via Zoom. Ms. Lobaito noted that she was present at Village Hall.

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

None this month.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED NOVEMBER 2, 2022

Motion by Riddle, second by Johanson to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2022 Hawthorn Woods In Bloom Committee.

Roll call vote.

Ayes: Ibbotson, Riddle, Vondrasek, Laman, Johanson, Folkes, Meagher

Nays: None

Absent: Intiazi, Pelak, Valavala, Masana, Scaletta

Motion carried.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

A. Chief Operating Officer—Pamela Newton

Ms. Newton reported the National Association of America In Bloom met in Florida, and she was voted in to join their Board. Ms. Laura Kunkle, the Executive Director of America In Bloom will be in town April 24, 2023. She is interested in organizing a

Chicagoland summit with Hawthorn Woods serving as the host. The AIB advisors will be in town July 9 – 11 with a reception being held at the mayor's house on July 10.

Mr. Valavala joined the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

B. Parks and Recreation Update—Brian Sullivan

Mr. Sullivan reported on various grants awarded to the Village. The Village was informed today a recent grant application received a positive review and will be submitted by the end of the week. If awarded, the money will be used to increase our tree canopy in the Village. This spring, plantings will take place along the walking trail at Community Park.

The annual tree sapling giveaway will take place on May 6 with approximately 600 saplings and pollinator plant packets being distributed. This Saturday, volunteers will gather to remove buckthorn at Seneca West.

V. **COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES/IDEAS**

A. Flowers and Landscape—Beryl Ibbotson

Ms. Ibbotson asked for assistance in re-planting the police garden this spring as many of the plants were cut down.

B. Celebrate Heritage—Megan Masana

No report this month.

C. Monarch Butterflies/Pollinators—Lauren Vondrasek

Work is planned to attract more monarchs to the Village.

D. Urban Forestry—Lauren Vondrasek

Ms. Vondrasek reiterated the importance of increasing our tree canopy in the Village. Clean-up in our parks and cul-de-sacs will begin soon.

E. Fundraising and Special Events—Bob Riddle

Mr. Riddle reported he is ready to sell popcorn in the park for the summer concerts.

F. Garden of the Month—Karen Johanson

Ms. Johanson led a discussion regarding the timing of the Garden of the Month awards. The committee discussed various options and decided the wording should reflect eligibility every 3 years. Ms. Johanson asked Mr. Sullivan for the names and addresses of the previous winners. The award season will run May through October.

G. Public Relations—Margo Pelak

Ms. Vondrasek provided the report on Public Relations. She indicated Ms. Pelak is working on a pamphlet describing the purpose of the Hawthorn Woods In Bloom committee and the work we perform. It should be ready for review by the committee at our next meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Winter Activities/Ideas

No report this month.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Riddle, second by Laman to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Ibbotson, Valavala, Riddle, Vondrasek, Laman, Johanson, Folkes, Meagher

Nays: None

Absent: Intiazi, Pelak, Masana, Scaletta

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna Lobaito
Village Clerk

The next meeting will be held on June 28, 2023