



VILLAGE OF RIVERSIDE  
LANDSCAPE ADVISORY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 8th, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

**1. Call to Order:**

The Regular Meeting of the Village of Riverside Landscape Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Chairperson Maloney called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**2. Roll Call:**

Present: Chairperson Maloney; Commissioners Lambros, Lucero, Plunkett, Rubin, Cody, Schaff (7:06)

Absent:

Also Present: Public Works Director Tabb, Forester Collins

**3. Consider Approval of May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the May 11th, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented by Commissioner Lucero, seconded by Commissioner Lambros

AYES: Maloney, Rubin, Cody, Plunkett, Lambros, Lucero

NAYES: None

Motion carried.

**New Business**

**4. Review and Discuss Swan Pond Maintenance Options**

Chairperson Maloney expressed concern there may be a misunderstanding on what “natural” versus “managed natural” mean. Chairperson Maloney opened up the discussion to the Commission on options for managing Swan Pond. Director Tabb stated that it takes approximately one person 6 hours to mow Swan Pond using the Village’s large mower. Discussion was had about the possibility of mowing less frequently as opposed to not at all. Director Tabb and Forester Collins made mention of the difficulty in mowing once the grass gets too long. Director Tabb made mention that DPW would do a spring mow to refresh the area if Swan Pond were to be left uncut similar to the one done spring 2021. Forester Collins stated

that Swan Pond is a high disturbance site, due to the frequent flooding, with a well-established seed bank that results in an uphill battle when trying to eliminate invasive species. Commissioner Cody suggested the possibility of having volunteers mow Swan Pond as a way of combatting the lack of resources. Director Tabb stated that volunteers would not be allowed to mow due to liability. Director Tabb suggested that if the LAC would like to recommend a reversal of the Board's previous decision, to not mow Swan Pond, that a presentation during an upcoming Board meeting would be the appropriate time to do so. Commissioner Schaff suggested to possibility of walking the Board through Swan Pond to point out various features. Chairperson Maloney asked if cutting Swan Pond half as much would have an impact on the budget. Director Tabb indicated that the overtime spent to combat dandelions would be a longer budgetary discussion as opposed to the frequency of cutting Swan Pond. When asked about the ability to burn off the weeds at Swan Pond, Forester Collins noted the difficulty in burning Swan Pond due to its terrain and the need for ideal weather conditions.

The Commission was in agreement that a Swan Pond maintenance recommendation should be presented to the Board. Chairperson Maloney agreed to begin drafting the recommendation.

Special meeting has been proposed for June 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm to review and accept the Swan Pond recommendation along with discussing other topics in lieu of the regularly scheduled July meeting.

#### ***Review and Discuss Olmsted Outlook Plan***

Chairperson Maloney provided an overview of the proposed Olmsted Outlook Plan created by Shawn Sinn, owner of Semper Fi Land Services Inc. Director Tabb noted the location was primarily based on keeping it away from underground utilities. Director Tabb also noted the Village would provide water for the trees, but unable to commit staff to do the watering. Chairperson Maloney stated the cost of the project would be approximately \$4500, plus the cost of a possible bench (\$2500). Chairperson Maloney inquired on the need to notify residents in the direct vicinity of the proposed project. Director Tabb suggested putting the project on an upcoming Board meeting to allow for public comment. Chairperson Maloney asked Forester Collins to comment on what the grove would look like at maturity. Forester Collins made mention the project consists of a nice collection of trees. Collins made mention of the understory providing screening, which could be at odds with the police's ability to monitor the area.

Motion to approve the presentation of the Olmsted Outlook Plan as outlined to the Village Board for approval by Commissioner Cody, seconded by Commissioner Rubin.

AYES: Maloney, Lambros, Cody, Rubin, Lucero, Plunkett, Schaff

NAYES:

Motion carried

#### **Old Business**

##### **5. *Review and Discuss Bench Policy***

Deferred to next meeting.

##### ***Review and Discuss No Mow May Update***

Commissioner Lambros was unable to make contact with Shorewood to get an update on their No Mow May.

***Review and Discuss Landscape Video Status***

Chairperson Maloney went through the video with RTV and was promised a rough cut by June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**6. *Chairperson's Report***

None

**7. *Standing Discussion Topics***

Master Landscape Plan

Commissioner Plunkett intends to do a triangle review in 2022.

Outreach and Education

Chairperson Maloney to contact Janice Foley about a possible soft opening for the nature viewer.

Insect Bioblitz

Commissioner Schaff has been unable to make contact with the entomologist.

Picnic Like its 1869

Commissioner Cody picked up the banner from DPW to have the date updated. Commissioner Schaff and Cody are working on events to occur during the Picnic.

ENewsletter Topic and Distribution Alternatives

Chairperson Maloney suggested getting ENewsletters submitted early for approval for the upcoming month.

Arboretum

Tours

Commissioner Plunkett is looking for one weekend and one weekday to meet with docents to go over information relevant to the arboretum tours.

Data

Commissioner Rubin stated a few links on the tree viewer no longer work because the Arboretum redid their website. Commissioner Rubin also noted the continued interest in posting additional tree photos.

Homeowner Guide to Planting Brochure

Commissioner Rubin suggested a number of errors that are to be updated by Cathy Haley on the website.

**8. Forester's Report**

Forester Collins noted he has marked the most trees ever coming out of winter. Noticeably there was a large number of maples that have either died or are in decline. Forester Collins believes the maples are a canary in the coal mine when it comes to climate change. He is concerned about the possibility of losing additional trees should there be a drought this summer. Forester Collins made mention about the diversity of Riverside's tree inventory.

Forester Collins noted his involvement with FLOS and a restoration project that has begun at the Scout Cabin along the river. Forester Collins mentioned that he will be training an intern to data log tree diameters in the first division.

**Other Business**

Chairperson Maloney stated that President Ballerine has received requests from people interested in joining many of the commissions. It was noted that there are more people interested in joining the Commissions than there are seats available. Chairperson Maloney suggested perhaps developing "junior" commissions as a feeder program for the appointed commissions.

**9. Motion to adjourn:**

A motion to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. by Commissioner Plunkett, second by Commissioner Lucero.

AYES: Maloney, Rubin, Cody, Plunkett, Lucero, Lambros, Schaff

NAYES: None

Motion carried.

Minutes Taken By:

Director Tabb

Minutes Approved By:

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