



VILLAGE OF RIVERSIDE
LANDSCAPE ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 8th, 2023, 7:01 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Village of Riverside Landscape Advisory Commission (LAC) was held in person on Tuesday, August 8th, 2023 in the Village of Riverside Township Hall, Room 22, Riverside, IL 60546. Chairperson Lambros called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present: Chairperson Lambros, Commissioners Rubin, Wilkens, Jakubas, Tarverdi, Barker and Barrs.
Also present: Director Tabb, Forester Collins, Management Intern Sanduski and Trustee Marsh-Ozga.

III. Consider Approval of July 11th, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the July 11th, 2023 regular meeting minutes was made with two minor edits by Commissioner Rubin. Seconded by Commissioner Tarverdi. Commissioners Barrs and Barker abstained, as they were both not present for that meeting.

AYES: Lambros, Rubin, Tarverdi, Wilkens, Jakubas.

ABSTAIN: Barrs, Barker.

NAYES: None

Motion carried.

IV. Public Comment

No public comment, per Director Tabb.

NEW BUSINESS

V. Disc Golf Presentation – Ron Malchiodi, Director of Parks and Recreation Village of Riverside

Chairperson Lambros introduced Village of Riverside Director of Parks and Recreation Ron Malchiodi, who later gave a short presentation regarding the potential installment of disc-golf game in Riverside. Before the presentation, Lambros noted to the audience, which included LAC Commissioners as well as Riverside residents, that the Village Parks and Recreation department did not require LAC approval to proceed with

the project. Further, the Riverside Village Board will be voting during their September 7th meeting whether the disc-golf project would be included in its 2024 budget. Chairperson Lambros also noted to all present that it was stated at the August 3rd Village Board of Trustees meeting that the disc-golf topic had already been presented to the LAC Commission, which was not true. Tonight's presentation by Director Malchiodi is the first time that the LAC has been presented with this topic from the Village, Lambros noted. Director Malchiodi told those present that the Riverside Parks and Recreation department is autonomous with funding their projects, with the Village Board of Trustees needing to vote to approve the budget funding of those projects. The purpose of Malchiodi's presentations to the various Commissions and Riverside groups is to inform residents about the proposed disc-golf course project so that they can weigh in with their feedback. Malchiodi explained to the group that Parks and Recreation has enlisted a committee of 26 Riverside residents who are all very familiar with the sport of disc-golf and are helping to thoughtfully weigh all aspects of the proposed project as well as lay out the proposed course should it go forward, which is proposed to be located near Riverside's Scout Cabin and Indian Gardens on Fairbank Road in the First Division. Riverside's Parks and Recreation Department along with the committee, in reaching out to Riverside residents, are doing their due diligence, per Malchiodi, to address all residents' concerns.

After Director Malchiodi's presentation, Riverside residents who were present at the meeting were able to share their concerns and feedback regarding the topic followed by a discussion by the LAC Commissioners. Commissioner Barker made a motion to not move forward with endorsing the project until more information is gathered. Commissioner Tarverdi seconded the vote. After the vote, the residents left the meeting room.

AYES: Lambros, Barker, Tarverdi, Rubin, Lambros, Wilkens, Jakubas

ABSTAIN: None

NAYES: None

Motion carried.

VI. 2024 Discussion on LAC Budget

Chairperson Lambros discussed the 2023 budget with the Commissioners; Director Tabb reviewed the group's expenses to date. Chairperson Lambros to send out the 2023 budget to all Commissioners to discuss at the next LAC meeting as it relates to next year's proposed budget.

OLD BUSINESS

VII. World Nature Conservation Day (Weekend) – Lisa

Chairperson Lambros reported that Riverside's inaugural Nature Conversation Day was held on the weekend of July 29-30. The event included bird watching, a kayak adventure tour, Tai Chi class, a tree arboretum tour using the village's tree viewer app. as well as a tour of Swan Pond. As well, LAC members distributed information about ILM and University of Illinois applied research. LAC members commented that online registration and increased promotion would be suggested improvements for future years.

VIII. LAC & FLOS T18 Workday Aug 19th

It was announced that an upcoming FLOS-sponsored landscape workday will be held on August 19th from 9 am to 12 noon at the Akenside/Longcommon triangle, T18.

IX. C4 – Update – Lisa & Aberdeen

As Trustee Marsh-Ozga needed to leave tonight's meeting early (before this agenda item was discussed), Chairperson Lambros reported on the Trustee's behalf that there was nothing new to report on the C4 initiative. Lambros reported that Riverside was working on a potential Illinois EPA grant opportunity involving storm water run-off, rain water and flooding, all topical issues as climate change continues. Per Lambros, the LAC and FLOS may partner on a rainwater sponsorship with the University of Illinois to train LAC and FLOS members on rain garden best-practices. Those who complete the training would receive certification and could then offer workshops to train Riverside residents who want to learn more about rain gardens.

X. Master Landscape Plan

- **Triangles – Spreadsheet Update – David B**

Commissioner Barker told the group that he has completed his initial Riverside triangle evaluation spreadsheet, which, when fully completed with all information, will objectively describe the square footage, tree species, native plant species as well as any invasive species of each triangle. Director Tabb will follow-up with the GIS analyst to determine if information about recently removed or newly planted trees can be easily shared with LAC members in an effort to keep the triangle spreadsheet information up-to-date. Forester Collins shared with the group that the tree map found on the village website always serves as the ideal source of updated tree information. Each Commissioner agreed to visit 3 or 4 triangles - or as many as their schedules allow – before the next LAC meeting on September 12th to objectively evaluate each of the 63 triangles within Riverside to identify forbes and understory foliage at each triangle.

XI. Outreach and Education

- **Invasive Trade-in – Residential – Update - Dave R. & Eve**

Commissioner Barrs reported that she is holding 20 trees at the Possibility Place Nursery for this fall's inventory of the Invasive Trade-in program, which had much success this spring. The trees will be distributed in mid-September for residents who agree to cut down and trade in their invasive trees/bushes (buckthorn, etc.) with the proper submission of paperwork. The LAC members spoke about also participating in the upcoming Farmer's Market on September 18 to further promote the Invasive Trade-In program.

XII. Marketing

- **Website – Updates – David B./David R./Amy - New Content**

The LAC Commissioners continue to submit suggested topical content for inclusion in resident e-blast notices with the recent notice on rain gardens having been well received. Potential fall notices could include information for residents on fall leaves, native plants or the LAC's trade-in program.

XIII. Grants Update – Lisa & Dan

Director Tabb reported that Riverside's recent application for a native seed grant is still pending approval. If granted, the seeds will be used in Swan Pond.

XIV. Chairperson's Report – Lisa

Chairperson Lambros reported to the group that Boy Scout Evan McMullen, who presented to the LAC on July 11th, still awaits approval from the Boy Scout Council to see if he can proceed with his Eagle project.

XV. Forester's Report

Forester Collins reported to the group that the most recent workday in Bourbon Springs (northwest corner of Swan Pond by stairs) was a success with the removal of many invasive plants and brush. Collins also mentioned that World Conversation Day was deemed a success. He also reported that a Riverside resident reported seeing a Spongy Moth (Gypsy Moth) in Scottswood Commons. Forester Collins is following up on methods to exterminate the non-native, invasive moths should more moths appear.

OTHER BUSINESS

XVI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m. The next LAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12th, 2023.

Motion to approve meeting adjournment made by Commissioner Barker. Seconded by Commissioner Barrs.

AYES: Lambros, Rubin, Tarverdi, Jakubas, Barrs, Barker and Wilkens.

NAYES: None

Motion carried.

Minutes Taken By: Linda Sanduski