

VILLAGE OF BARRINGTON HILLS HERITAGE & ENVIRONS COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes October 20, 2015

Call to Order:

Co-Chairman Josie Croll called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Josie Croll, Suzy Mogler, Neil Fern, Erin Vondra, Linda Cools, Liz Olsen and Robin VanCastle
Members Absent: Lorraine Briggs, Dan Cantalupo and Daniel Mjolsness
Liaisons Present: Anna Paul and Sgt. Dave Kann
Liaisons Absent: Fritz Gohl

New Member:

Josie Croll welcomed new member Liz Olsen.

Request for Public Comments:

There were no public comments made.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the meetings of May 19, 2015 and September 15, 2015 were unanimously approved.

Speaker Jennifer Kainz:

The committee received an update from Jennifer Kainz on a number of environmentally-friendly programs being implemented at Countryside and other local schools. The Textile Drive was successful with the collection of 2,571 pounds of material. A Green Club has been started at Countryside to help teach the children about conservation and the environment. On November 7, 2015 there will a Pumpkin Pitch event at the high school between noon and 4PM. The purpose of the event is to encourage the recycling of pumpkins as organic waste.

Jennifer also reported on the Groot waste contract for the Village of Barrington and District 220 schools. Her goal is to expand recycling of organic waste. Jennifer Kainz asked for the support of the Village of Barrington Hills to have organic waste recycled at Countryside School. This project has not yet been implemented. She estimates that the cost for pick up would approximate \$100 per month and she will also be asking District 220 to fund the cost.

Beautification of Village Hall:

Erin Vondra and Suzy Mogler then presented an update on obtaining preliminary cost estimates for painting and new flooring at the village hall. They obtained a painting quote of \$14,000 from Drake Painting. They have not yet received an estimate for the flooring. They are considering laminate flooring with carpet for the conference room to improve acoustics. The committee discussed that additional bids would need to be obtained from prevailing-wage contractors if the project were approved. The recommendation would then be presented to

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Fritz Gohl for his endorsement and he would then bring the matter to the Board of Trustees for ultimate approval.

Liz Olsen then presented a landscape plan and a preliminary cost estimate to enhance the entryway to the village hall. Liz distributed a landscape plan and reported that some of the existing plants would be re-used. For a cost of \$2,160 her company, Avant-Garden Scapes, could remove the existing plants, prepare the site, plant a serviceberry tree and provide a variety of bushes, shrubs, garden mix and mulch. The bushes, shrubs and plants would then be planted by volunteers. She estimated that the planting could be accomplished in one afternoon with 10 volunteers. The cost would increase if the company were to do the planting rather than the volunteers.

Josie Croll reported that she will speak to both Fritz Gohl and Marty McLaughlin about both projects to determine their interest in proceeding.

Anna Paul, Village Clerk, suggested that the preliminary cost estimates be provided to Wendy Frisen, Deputy Village Treasurer, for her opinion as to the reasonableness of the proposed costs.

Mission Statement:

Josie Croll reported that the discussion of a mission statement for the committee will be moved to the next meeting. She will be discussing her drafts with Co-Chairman Dan Cantalupo and they will submit their joint recommendation at the next meeting. Linda Cools also volunteered to draft a mission statement for the committee's consideration.

Emerald Ash Borer Disease:

Linda Cools reported that she will be presenting the issue to the Village Board of Health to get their input before finalizing her article for the village newsletter. The article is to be informational, letting residents know about the disease and their options to address infested trees on their property.

Erin Vondra suggested additional outlets to disseminate this important information to village residents. She cited Quintessential Barrington, Barrington Hills Life, Barrington 365 and Living 60010.

Roadside Clean Up:

Neil Fern reported that a clean-up of Helm Road is scheduled for November 14th from 1 – 4PM. The volunteers are Cub scouts and their parents. Suzy Mogler volunteered to recruit some high school students to participate. Josie Croll volunteered to request Starbucks to donate coffee or hot chocolate for the event. Sgt. Kann reported that the police department will provide police escort to enhance the safety of all participants. The Village of Barrington Hills will provide supplies, including bags and reflective vests. All participants will be required to sign a waiver of liability for the village.

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Trash Container Ordinance:

The committee discussed whether an ordinance requiring covered trash receptacles would reduce the need for roadside clean-ups. Anna Paul informed the members that there are a number of different companies that provide waste collection in the village and there currently are no consistent practices for trash storage and pick-up. Anna stated that ordinances are brought to the Board by trustees. Josie Croll agreed to discuss the issue with Fritz Gohl for his thoughts.

Beautification Weekend:

The committee discussed alternative methods of increasing volunteer participation in cleaning up the village road sides. The committee discussed promoting a Beautification Weekend in early November to encourage residents to collect roadside trash by their properties at a time convenient to them. Residents could pick up bags at the village hall. The call for action could be in the village newsletter, a village email blast and other local media. Josie Croll agreed to ask for a picture of Mike Hannigan collecting trash and featuring him in an article promoting residents to get involved.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at noon upon a motion by Neil Fern, seconded by Erin Vondra and approved by all members present.