

MINUTES OF THE CONSERVANCY COMMISSION MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH BARRINGTON
HELD SEPTEMBER 15, 2009
AT THE SOUTH BARRINGTON VILLAGE HALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman Dr. Eileen Koty.

Roll call was taken.

Present: Dr. Koty, Mrs. Behal, Mr. Lustig, Mrs. Munao, Mr. Murrin, Mr. Niedzinski.

Absent: Ms. Gordon. A quorum was present.

Also in attendance were Village President ("Mayor") Frank Munao and volunteer and Eagle Scout Candidate Jon Catlin.

Approval of the Minutes for the previous two meetings was postponed until the next scheduled meeting.

The first item on the agenda which was discussed was the Conservancy update. Mayor Munao stated that the seven picnic tables that had been purchased for the Conservancy were successfully installed atop the previously placed platforms on Saturday, August 22nd. He thanked all the volunteers who helped with this endeavor. In addition, a bike rack has been placed in the parking lot but still needs to be anchored. Waste containers, a message board, trail markers and posts have also been delivered and will require installation.

Mayor Munao requested a definitive list of the Conservancy rules for placement in the message board. He would like to present the rules to the Village Board in October for purpose of enacting an enforceable ordinance. The Commission will review rules previously presented and make a final recommendation to the Mayor.

The Mayor mentioned that Dustin Wire of Applied Ecological Services surveyed the Conservancy property and identified 31 different species of plants. The Mayor also distributed a summary of suggested ideas as part of the Village's initiative to participate in the Leave No Child Inside ("LNCI") Consortium. The outline was prepared by Casey Lewis, a summer intern assigned to consider how the Village might participate in LNCI. The Commission will review the outline at the next meeting to determine which programs fit best with the Conservancy.

Other updates included a discussion of plans to study the culvert drain near the pond to determine whether pipes can be moved higher to raise water level. Currently, snow plowing of the parking lot is not planned for this winter due to cost considerations. This might be reconsidered if a number of residents show interest in winter activities (cross country skiing etc.). Construction of a deceleration lane on Bartlett Road for safer access to Bridges Drive leading into the Conservancy should be started within the next three weeks. Two trees to the north of Bridges Drive will likely need to be removed to complete this project. Finally, the Mayor suggested that the Commission prepare a letter to residents to communicate Conservancy milestones reached to date, mention June 2010 Grand Opening plans as well as to introduce the LNCI concept. Mr. Murrin agreed to compose an initial draft of the letter for Commission review.

Chairman Koty moved on to update the Commission with the status of discussions with local merchants regarding participation in the Grand Opening. Several merchants have offered help ranging from providing food and liquid refreshments to fly fishing demonstrations. Chairman Koty and Ms. Gordon have recommended that the Commission distribute a checklist to the merchants requesting that they confirm their specific commitment. The Commission agreed that this was a good idea and recommended moving forward. Mr. Lustig suggested that the Commission consider displaying a banner at the Grand Opening to recognize contributors. Mrs. Behal and Mrs. Munao said that they would also consider obtaining commitments for appropriate entertainment at the Grand Opening. Jon Catlin may be able to organize his scout troops to provide Conservancy tours of the trails, wildflower gardens etc. during the Grand Opening. A LNCI program might also be considered for that day.

Chairman Koty then announced that the South Barrington Garden Club plans to make a \$500 unrestricted donation to the Conservancy. The Commission was most appreciative and, after some discussion, Ms. Munao suggested that the donation might be used to fund the markers to identify the trees in the Conservancy's "Tree Walk".

Jon Catlin reported on how he and his troop might assist the Conservancy. Jon could note the common name, Latin name and provide a brief description of each species in the Tree Walk and the place appropriate markers. The Commission will recommend the type of markers to be utilized.

Chairman Koty concluded by suggesting that next month's meeting agenda is devoted to reporting on progress on the various initiatives discussed this evening and concluding on appropriate recommendations. There being no such new business to be discussed Mr. Lustig made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:00 p.m. Mrs. Behal seconded the motion.