

Village of South Barrington  
Conservancy Commission  
Tuesday, January 4, 2011  
Minutes

Call To Order

Commissioner Murrin called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Commissioners present: Jerry Murrin, Nancy Munao, Michael Niedzinski, and Darryl Lustig. Absent: Eileen Koty, Melissa Gordon. A quorum was present.

Others present: Village President Frank Munao.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Lustig motioned to accept the minutes of the December 21, 2010 meeting. Discussion: line 33 of the minutes was edited to read “requests for funding no later than the March 2011 Village Board of Trustees meeting...” The motion was seconded as edited by Commissioner Niedzinski, and carried by voice vote.

Update

Commissioner Munao stated that the email to the Friends of the Conservancy went out this morning and the survey has been posted on the Village website. The survey consisted of 4 questions.

1. Some very specific programs involving insects, butterflies, animals, plants, trees, environment and photography for children and/or adults are currently on the planning table. Are these workshops/labs of some interest to you or significant persons in your household? Explain:
2. What future programs would you like to see included at the Conservancy? Examples: adult/children programs for musical and educational interests, nature walks, art exhibits, special events.
3. Do you wish to contribute talents and or skills for any programs or events?
4. Are there any specific events you would like to see at the Conservancy? Examples---seasonal, topical, cultural events.

Commissioners discussed the survey and the logistics of how data received from its distribution will be sorted and analyzed. Commissioner Munao agreed to be the “link” person—the person responsible for assembling the responses to the survey and reporting back to the Commission.

Village President Munao expressed concern that the survey was sent out before it was approved. He was assured that the survey questions were reviewed and approved at a previous meeting. He directed that Linda Hooker, who administers the website, be contacted to insure that the survey is functional and that responses are being received. Commissioner Munao stated that she would confirm with Ms. Hooker.

Commissioners turned to the discussion of potential programs for calendar year 2011. Commissioner Murrin distributed an index of materials assembled from discussions at previous Conservancy meetings as well as program outlines from other conservation organizations in the area. Commissioners reviewed the material and compiled their own list of program activities, broken down into 7 areas of interest: Bug Programs, Animal Programs, Environment Programs, Camps, Photography Programs, The Arts, and Recreation Programs. Commissioners brainstormed ideas and added them to the categories. Commissioner Lustig put the suggested programs in a spreadsheet format and shared it with each member.

#### Bug Programs

Ants  
Bees  
Fireflies  
Butterflies  
Insects

#### Animal Programs

Frogs  
Snakes  
Turtles  
Bats  
Fish  
Horses/Ponies  
Tracking animals  
Birds

#### Environment

Water  
Plants  
Tree identification  
Flowers  
Sounds  
Astronomy  
Planting, maintenance and control of invasive species  
Scavenger hunts  
Restoration & landscaping

#### Camps

#### Photography

#### Arts

Drawing  
Painting

## Recreation

Hiking

Walks

Snowshoeing

Tai Chi / Yoga

The Commission also considered how to recruit volunteers and local conservationists to assist in facilitating some programs. Photographers George Papadakis and Diane Bodkin will be contacted regarding a photography program; the chief biologist for the Cook County Forest Preserve will be contacted regarding environmental programs. Additionally, Harper College and other local colleges and universities will be contacted to inquire about student internships, and the Barrington High School remains a source for high school interns who need to complete their community service requirement. Another resource is the Boy Scouts. Mr. Munao stated that there is an active Eagle Scout program in South Barrington and that they would be a valuable resource.

Other programs still being considered include developing a program for special needs children in coordination with the Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association (NISRA), as well as a program for senior citizens that involves local assisted living centers. Commissioner Niedzinski stated that a beautification project for the mound in The Conservancy, involving “friends of The Conservancy” to help in planting anchor trees and shrubs, would be an excellent way to recruit visitors and volunteers.

The Commission also addressed the idea of charging small fees for programs to pay for supplies and instructors, if necessary. It was decided that commissioners would first choose which programs they will promote for this year before considering the specific costs involved in promoting them.

Commissioners agreed that each would consider the entries on the list of potential programs and rank their top five projects. They will meet again in two weeks and compare each others’ picks and also to review the responses from the survey. From this they will choose which programs to promote this year.

Old Business. None.

New Business. None.

## Adjournment

Commissioner Niedzinski motioned, and Commissioner Munao seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

The minutes of the January 4, 2011 Conservancy Commission are respectfully submitted,  
Mary Lampugnano  
Recording Secretary