

THE PLAN COMMISSION

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Plan Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

A quorum was present. Chairman Patricia Letarte, Daniel Particelli, Teresa Badillo, Mike Rickert, Linda Suwalski, Elyse Vukelich (Planner), Nick Walny (Planner), Andy Smolen and Lisa Manzo (Plan Secretary). Absent: William Thorn and Alma Montenegro.

2. Member Badillo made a motion to accept the minutes of August 22, 2018 as presented. Member Rickert seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.
3. Public Comment: None.
4. New Business: None
5. Old Business: a. Discussion of draft tree leaflet b. Discussion of potential tree locations.

Chairperson Letarte welcomed Andy Smolen to the meeting this evening and discussed the draft of the tree leaflet with the members at this time. Chairperson Letarte asked Andy if he had an issue with using his name in the leaflet for a section entitled "Ask Andy". It would have inquiries to Andy about different trees within the Village and tips and recommendations for different flora and tree species. He happily agreed.

Andy addressed the members at this time. He discussed different areas in the Village that trees have been planted. For example, the Mill/Reuter Subdivisions. He discussed planting 49 trees on Calwagner, Atlantic, Reuter and Johanna. He continued to pass out a flyer from the Chicago Region Trees Initiative to the members. It discusses three (3) categories that the Village can improve on as far as tree coverage. This study will help with future grants that will be applied for within the Village. The three (3) categories are: The percentage of Canopy coverage, the percentage of Impervious Surfaces and Surface Temperature.

The members thanked Andy for coming this evening and contributing so greatly to this topic.

6. Staff Update: Roundtable discussion of Three Landscape Ordinances

Ms. Vukelich began this session of the meeting by distributing a questionnaire to the members outlining different discussion points to start off a brainstorming session on what the Village would like to see and have in a potential Landscape Ordinance. There are three (3) Ordinances from different Municipalities that are going to be discussed to give our members a base line for ideas. The first Village for discussion this evening is the Landscape Ordinance from Bensenville.

Ms. Vukelich asked the members what they think the purpose of having a landscape ordinance would be for our Village and what should some of the main goals be. There was discussion between the members that the purpose of having a Landscape Ordinance would be to beautify the Village. There was discussion that a Landscape Ordinance should be primarily for Commercial and Industrial areas within the Village. The members took issue with having it for the Residential areas of town.

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Ms. Vukelich asked the members if they were in favor of the Commercial and Industrial areas within the Village having “transition strips” differing in intensity based on the difference between two adjacent uses? For example, having landscape screening in a strip form along the lot line bordering an industrial property from a residential property. The members were in favor of this.

Ms. Vukelich asked the members if they were in favor of “island strips” differing in intensity based on the differences between the two adjacent uses. The members were in favor of this.

There was discussion regarding roof top screening of equipment. Is this something that the members would like to see happen in the Village. The members were indifferent regarding this issue and feel it does not apply.

There was discussion in regard to the requirement of planting of trees within the Village. Should it be required of residents of new construction or just commercial and industrial developments? The members discussed this as a potential requirement.

There was discussion in regard to the required replacement of trees with equal or great caliper? How important is tree preservation and do the members think the height affects the aesthetics of town. The members discussed this topic and feel that if a tree needs replacement it is the duty of the property owner to replace the tree. If it is in a Commercial or Industrial district, the property maintenance of the tree should be the tenants responsibility and the replacement, the owner’s.

The members decided to end discussion at this time and pick it up at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Plan Commission.

7. Member Ricket made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Plan Commission. It was seconded by Member Badillo. The motion was carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M Manzo

Lisa M. Manzo
Plan Commission Secretary