

**TREE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY**  
July 18, 2023

The regular meeting of the Tree Preservation was called to order at 6:06 p.m. at the Village of Franklin Park Police Station, Community Room, located at 9451 W. Belmont Avenue, Franklin Park, Illinois 60131

Member Michael led the Pledge of Allegiance

**PRESENT:** Members Joan Ambo, Jennifer Costa, Les Grahn, Ramona Michael and Sylvia Noth  
Sustainability, Forestry, Parkways and Facilities Director (SFPFD) Andrew Smolen

**APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF JUNE 20, 2023 MINUTES**

Motion by Member Noth, second by Member Costa to approval June 20, 2023, regular schedule meeting minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mission Statement and the Goals were created by the board.

**Mission Statement:** *The Tree Preservation Commission of the Village of Franklin Park is a group of volunteer residents whose mission is promoting the many benefits trees provide our community and planet through education, events and programs.*

**Goal:** *Trees are an important piece of the sustainable puzzle; the Tree Preservation Commission of the Village of Village Franklin Park has a goal to introduce sustainable practices to our village. The Tree Preservation Commission of the village of Franklin Park is aiming to be a part of the solution towards improving our environment.*

- The committee decided that the logo will be created by a student from the high school and will be voted upon.
- SFPFD Smolen explained to the committee that a teacher, Kathy Kubecko, from East Leyden High School contacted him for an education event in the fall (September). Member Smolen will also propose to the teacher to inquire about high school students writing articles for the website.
- SFPFD Smolen explained that the committee as a non-profit can raise limited funds, however funds return to the Village of Franklin Park, needing a separately created budget within the village's annual budget, reserved for committee-approved tree planting project or fund.
- SFPFD Smolen explained that we can apply for grants but must be submitted by the Village of Franklin Park. Most grants have a matching cost requirement to be accepted and met by the Village.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- High School students cannot be on the committee board, however they may be a non-voting liaison.
- Pete Stoletz from DuPage Beekeeper Association will possibly give information regarding what kind of trees benefit honeybees for the World Honey Bee Day event.
- SFPFD explained that 25 trees at 18 different addresses are planned to be planted with 29 trees planned for removal.
- A Red Canadian Chokeberry will be planted on the parkway of 2545 Silver Creek for the homeowner's son to enjoy. Both the homeowner and son will be at the next Tree Preservation Commission meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- President Michael informed the group that there is a private tour of Evanston's restoration project in Harbert-Payne Park and they demonstrate the different ways of companion planting fruit trees, community gardens, and ecosystem restoration projects removing invasive plants and conversion to a food forest.

**OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

7:17 p.m.

Approval  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8/15/2023