

**TREE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY
September 19, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Tree Preservation was called to order at 6:04 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 JULY 18, 2023 MINUTES

Motion by Member Noth, second by Member Ambo to approval August 15, 2023 regular schedule meeting minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Presentation/Approval of Acquisition of Franklin Park becoming Bee City.

Application for Bee City USA designation acquisition will be paused pending presentation and approval from the Village of Franklin Park's Board of Commission.

Motion by Member Noth, seconded by Member Michael.

Tree Preservation Board Commission website link was reviewed and Member Michael asked members to present new ideas.

SFPFD Smolen communicated with East Leyden High School teacher Kathy Kubecko to help with inventing a Tree Commission logo and write some information on the website.

SFPFD Smolen explained the Police Station landscaping to mimic the landscaping at the Metra Station. He will inquire for a Master Gardener to help.

Member Michael explained the severity of the emerging cicada in 2024. Public awareness will be on the website,

The board discussed the importance of healthy trees, and they should not be cut down. The board will present at a future date to the village trustees regarding creating a Tree Preservation Ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

Member Michael explained that NASA sent seedlings to space on the shuttle Artemis. On behalf of Village of Franklin Park, SFPFD Smolen will submit an application for a seedling, and if awarded, plant it near the Water Department or the Library.

Member Michael suggested creating a contact list on different organizations and vendors.

Member Costa will be inquiring to the Park District of Franklin Park to hold a Seed Swap event at the Community Center, possibly in January.

Member Michael will revise the Tree Preservation Commission introduction letter and email it to members for review.

Members discussed distributing a "guide" to protect young trees when planted on homeowners' property.

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

SFPFD Smolen announced that 189 trees were planted in the Village, with 61 more trees planted in the fall. The year total of trees planted is 250.

SFPFD Smolen informed the board an Eagle Scout will be constructing eight benches for the John Mazur Arboretum.

Member Ambo discussed and explained the America in Bloom and Canadian Railways grants for improving landscapes in communities that neighbor the rail lines.

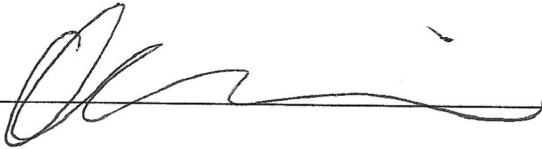
PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

7:41

Approval
Signature: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Ambo', written over a horizontal line.

Date: _____

October 17th / 2023