

**VILLAGE OF LAKE BLUFF
SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING**

**April 1, 2019
7:00 P.M.
Village Hall Board Room
40 East Center Avenue**

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The Village of Lake Bluff Sustainability and Community Enhancement Ad Hoc Committee (SEC) met on April 1, 2019 in the Village Hall Board Room (40 E. Center Avenue) at 7:02 p.m. and the following members were present:

2. Roll Call

Present: Brian Rener, Co-Chair
Leslie Bishop
Anne Sorensen
Sophia Twichell

Absent: Marina Carney Puryear, Co-Chair
Nan Patterson
Emma Johnson

Also Present: Glen Cole, Assistant to the Village Administrator (AVA)
John Scopelliti, Administrative Intern (AI)

3. Consideration of the March 4, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Member Sorensen moved to approve the March 4, 2019 SEC Meeting Minutes. Member Bishop seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

4. Non-Agenda Items and Visitors

Co-Chair Rener stated that the SEC allocates 15 minutes for those individuals who would like the opportunity to address the SEC on any matter not listed on the agenda.

There were no requests to address the SEC for items not on the agenda.

5. Order of the Meeting

The Co-Chairs will entertain requests from anyone present on the order of business to be conducted during the Meeting.

There was no request to change the order of the meeting.

6. General Business

a. Garden Club Plans for Washington Park

AVA stated that back in August 2018 the SEC first reviewed plans for Washington Park. He

stated that the Lake Bluff Garden Club has brought forward a proposed redesign of the park, which is a small pocket park north of downtown Lake Bluff. He stated that at that time the SEC viewed the plan and suggest the Garden Club move forward with a first phase, which he believes they did. He stated that the SEC wanted to see some more details regarding a couple subjects that are described in the minutes before the committee that he will go over a little later. He stated that the new plan has been submitted and Deidre Toner is here to give a presentation.

Deidre Toner approached the podium to start her presentation. She stated that they were focused on bringing in an ADA compliant pathway and they wanted to look at the area that they had specified for a table or seating so they essentially have what they had before in August except for the addition of the proposed gravel pathway. She stated that the large round flagstone patio has been installed and the table is currently under design review right now. She stated that the Garden Club is trying to decide what type of table they would like to use right now. She stated that they need a 60 inch circular area for the stabilized granite pathway to back in and out of that table area for individuals with wheelchairs. She stated that they wanted to bring this in off the sidewalk so that way individuals can have access to the garden beds as the make their way to the table area. She talked about the integration of the rocks and boulders for the photo booth that they plan to have.

Member Twichell stated she was curious if they intend to have the pathway grey or what color specifically.

Deidre Toner stated that since the stone is a natural valor stone that she wants to match the existing flagstone that is present at Washington Park.

Deidre Toner stated that another thing they talked about was coordinating plant material with the upcoming Lake Bluff Landscape Identity, Gateway, and Corridor Study plant list. She explained the plants that will be used by the sign in the Southwest corner of the park as it will be a layered sort of plants.

Member Twichell stated that she was curious if there has been an initiative on native plantings in this plan.

Deidre Toner stated that almost all are native cultivars and there are probably 5 or 6 plants that are not native in this plan.

Member Twichell stated that she was curious if any science has come out regarding the nativars provide any benefit to pollinators.

Deidre Toner stated that there is no definitive answer as this is still out being researched. She stated that there are several areas out on the east coast and down in Texas where this type of research is being conducted. She stated that the botanical gardens have just started conducting trials on this type of research. She stated that we could go all natives but she believes that nativars will give this park a beautiful blend of seasonal colors to the park.

Deidre Toner stated that they intend to do an ADA compliant water fountain with a pet-friendly attachment. She stated that there are several out on the market right now but for the purposes of Washington Park we are showing some commercial options. She stated that they can have different power coat colors and that these water fountains can run anywhere from

\$4,000 to \$7,000. She stated that they do have some architectural series options too but all water fountains have the option to add a pet-friendly attachment or a jug filler attachment.

Member Bishop stated that at the previous meeting we talked about the addition of trash and recycling receptacles and she didn't see them in the new plan so she was curious as to where they plan to place them along with what will they look like.

Deidre Toner stated that there was a recent order of furniture from the village that was going to address that situation. AVA Cole stated that he was not aware of this furniture order. She stated that she knew the village was in the process of obtaining more receptacles so she emphasized that she wanted to show consistency in Washington Park along with what the village currently has for its outside furniture. She stated that once there is more clarity regarding this outside furniture that she would have a more definitive response for Member Bishop. She stated that these receptacles would be closer to the sidewalk instead of closer to the eating area. She stated that these locations are flexible and can be moved around to the liking of the SEC.

Member Bishop stated that she recalls from the original discussion that both Member Patterson and she brought up the definitive maintenance duties for this park along with if there is any resident interest in assisting with this park.

Deidre Toner stated that Kinnucan has committed to 1 year of maintenance at Washington Park. She stated that she provided a document to the garden club which lays out a 4-year plan for maintenance. She stated that this plan specifies how many hours need to be allocated to have a high level of quality maintenance. She stated that the Garden Club is looking to start funding for an annuity fund for \$10,000 - \$20,000 to be given over to the Village and kept in a separate account that is specifically meant for the maintenance at Washington Park.

Member Bishop stated she was curious if there was interest gathered from high school students in regards to possible service hours at the park.

Deidre Toner stated that she has not worked on that but the Garden Club has been spear-heading that objective.

Co-Chair Renner stated he was curious about signage and education for the community.

Deidre Toner stated that after once everything is planted, they are going to look at where the best individual signs will be placed then we're going to order the same signs as the Chicago Botanical Garden. She stated that they would like to have a special posting at the front of the park that gets changed every two weeks or every month that someone from the Garden Club will take care of that talks about seasonal topics or interesting tips to know for gardening certain plants.

Deidre Toner believes the planting will take place from May 15 to May 30, pending the weather. She stated that they will start with re-organizing the beds and integrate the plants to the appropriate locations. She stated that she believes the pathways and crab apple trees will be going in around the early part of May.

Co-Chair Renner stated he was curious if there would be any opening ceremony.

Deidre Toner stated that there will be a dedication but they're waiting to do that until the table is installed. She believes that will be later summer – early fall. She stated that they just secured the table from Mike Jarvi at Crab Tree Farms. She stated that they plan to do an octagonal or rectangle table with the oak tree.

Member Sorensen stated that she was curious if there was a water plan to be implemented since they intend to water between mid to late May.

Deidre Toner stated that there is irrigation in the garden now and the heads are in the lawn so they intend to re-evaluate the setup of the irrigation system.

AVA Cole mentioned that a meter pit will be buried at the park due to state law policies. A brief discussion commenced.

Member Bishop stated that she moves to recommend the Garden Club plans for Washington Park to the Village Board for approval. Member Sorensen seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: (4) Twichell, Sorensen, Bishop, Rener
Nays: (0)
Absent: (3) Puryear, Patterson, Johnson

7. Village Staff Report

AVA Cole stated that Sustainability Plan revisions are close to completion and should be present at our May meeting.

8. Member's Report

There was no member's report.

9. Co-Chair's Report

Co-Chair Rener attended the Village Board meeting to present the Landscape Identity, Gateway, and Corridor Study. He stated that it was met with a positive response from the board. He stated that the leaf blower survey was discussed at the Village Board level and that the hours of operation were discussed. He mentioned the SEC would be willing to look into this discussion if necessary. He talked about the idea of green landscaping initiatives for this committee to address in the future. Member Twichell stated that she thinks it would be fantastic to have a workshop to teach landscaping companies how to conduct green landscaping and other sustainable initiatives.

10. Adjournment

As no further business came before the SEC, Member Sorensen moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Member Twichell seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Scopelliti
Administrative Intern