

**Minutes of the Community Design Commission Forestry Sub-Committee Meeting
Held on October 1, 2014
At Village Hall in Room 130**

Forestry Sub-Committee Meeting called to order at 6:45 p.m.

Attendees: Chairperson Douglas Chien, Commissioner James Rolfes

Absent: Commissioner Michele Wheeler

Also present: Craig Failor, Village Planner; Rob Sproule, Forestry Superintendent;

Discussion regarding forestry issues:

A short discussion ensued about treatments for Emerald Ash. Mr. Sproule explained that tree injections to treat infected trees require a multi-year commitment and can be long-term and costly. He said the injections work better on the White Ash trees.

Mr. Sproule gave an update on the department. He said it was a quiet summer for storm damage and they have done 91 in-house tree trims, along with three outside contractors working on tree removal and trimming. He said they've hired a consultant to identify trees that will need to be removed due to Dutch Elm disease and found over 90 more trees that will need to be removed. He said the harsh winter and wet spring provided stressors for many of those trees. He said parkway inventory has started with a consultant working to create a new list. He said it would be a GPS inventory and will include size, crown spread, and condition of tree and eventually the report will be uploaded through Google Earth so residents can access it.

He said contracts would be going out for bid for forestry projects. Pruning in the spring will be south of the Eisenhower and from the Eisenhower north to Madison east of East Avenue.

Commissioner Rolfes suggested a program for forestry education that was offered through Morton Arboretum that discussed climate change. Chair Chien suggested sponsoring an evening talk. Commissioner Rolfes will follow up with Morton on this. Commissioner Rolfes also suggested a talk for residents regarding pruning strategies. Mr. Sproule said in an upcoming village newsletter he would have an article detailing pruning information.

Mr. Sproule said he was working with the Learning Gardens, a tree advocacy group that was working to get arboretum status for the Village in a program run by the Morton Arboretum. He said the village meets the criteria for level two. To move forward, Mr. Sproule said they'd need to have an established education program and perhaps the CDC and the Learning Gardens could work together to do so.

Other Business:

Chair Chien asked about volcano mulch, if it was still a big problem in the Village. Mr. Sproule said he's seen a few cases but it was not a wide-spread problem. Chair Chien said commissioners used to have door-hangers to leave at homes where they saw the problem. Mr. Sproule said they could generate some more of the hangers if it was needed.

Commissioner Rolfes asked about a program where residents could donate a tree in someone's name. Mr. Sproule said there could be ownership issues with parkway trees. Commissioner Rolfes suggested it could be a memorial program. Mr. Sproule suggested gauging resident interest. Commissioner Loranz suggested asking the Park District if they have more demand than they could fill. Mr. Failor said the memorial plaques would be difficult to maintain on parkways.

Community Design Commission Meeting called to order at 7:15 p.m. and roll was called. As there was not a quorum, the meeting was cancelled.

Angela Schell,

Recording Secretary