

**Minutes of the Community Design Commission/ Forestry Sub-Committee Meeting
Held on May 27, 2015
At Village Hall in Room 101**

Forestry Sub-Committee Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Attendees: Chair Douglas Chien; Commissioners Michele Wheeler and James Rolfes

Absent: None

Also present: Craig Failor, Village Planner; Rob Sproule, Village Forester

Discussion regarding forestry issues:

Mr. Sproule gave an update on the forestry department. He said a contract for stump grinding was cancelled as the contractor was unable to complete the job. Another contract will be executed shortly.

Community Design Commission Meeting called to order at 7:15 p.m. and roll was called.

Attendees: Chair Douglas Chien; Commissioners Susan Ebner, Teresa Heit-Murray, Christina Loran, James Rolfes, Aaron Stigger and Michele Wheeler

Absent: Commissioners Julie Carpenter, Adam Kallish, Richard Katz, Lloyd Natof, and John Schiess

Also present: Craig Failor, Village Planner; Bill McKenna, Village Engineer; Byron Kutz, Assistant Village Engineer; Michael Bruce, Zoning Administrator

Public Attendees:

Non-Agenda Public Comment: None

Forestry Superintendent Report: Chair Chien reviewed Mr. Sproule's report.

Minutes: Commissioner Rolfes moved to approve the minutes from April 22, 2015 as submitted. Commissioner Ebner seconded. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Hearing(s); Sitting as the Design Review Commission:

None.

Other Business:

Introduction of Streetscape Project for Chicago Avenue at Harlem Avenue Business District

Mr. McKenna explained that a portion of Chicago Avenue would have streetscape improvements and they would incorporate the 2008 Chicago Avenue business plan recommendations into the design. As the plan does not have a great level of detail, they would include comments from the CDC into their design plan.

Mr. Kutz gave a presentation on the anticipated improvements. He said they were considering lighting improvements and possibly using a landscape architect to help plan landscape improvements. He said there would be an opportunity to add additional trees along the parkway.

Commissioner Stigger suggested incorporating brick into crosswalks. Mr. Kutz agreed. Commissioner Loran suggested dedicated bike lanes. Mr. McKenna said with the turn lanes and traffic signals it would be difficult to have a dedicated bike lane.

Commissioner Ebner said she was concerned about the addition of a median as it would create traffic issues. Mr. McKenna agreed and said they would get feedback from the business district as well. Commissioner Wheeler said a median would not be consumer friendly as it would limit driving options. She also suggested adding greenery or planters to the end of the street near Harlem. Mr. McKenna said they would look at the possibilities of adding more landscaping if budgets allow.

Commissioner Loran said she'd push for lighting that protects the night sky, "dark sky" fixtures. Mr. McKenna agreed. Chair Chien said he would push for greater pedestrian safety and the median addition would do so. Chair Chien said he was concerned about the maintenance of planters as many business districts don't fund the upkeep. Mr. McKenna said they would address that with the business district. Commissioner Rolfes suggested tying the improvements into the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio.

Commissioner Heit-Murray suggested concentrated lighting and plantings in sections near businesses to break up the street and keep a theme of the same material and shape throughout.

Mr. McKenna said they would reach out to the business district and then move on to a landscape architect to get preliminary designs underway.

Sign Ordinance Review

Mr. Bruce reviewed the proposed reformatting for the Sign Code; he said the goal was to make the code more user-friendly. Chair Chien suggested putting the exempt signs section before the permit process section. A short discussion ensued about finding the Sign Code on the website. Commissioner Heit-Murray suggested adding a note to the Zoning Ordinance that the Sign Code was in the Village Code. After a short discussion, the commission agreed the proposed reformatting was a good start and staff would come back with any language revisions at a later date.

Cavalcade of Pride Awards Discussion

Commissioners were assigned zones; they were encouraged to take pictures of exceptional properties now so that it would be easier to compile for the presentation.

- Zone 1: Carpenter/Heit-Murray
- Zone 2: Rolfes /Wheeler
- Zone 3: Natof/Wheeler
- Zone 4: Kallish/Rolfes
- Zone 5: Loran/Ebner
- Zone 6: Ebner/Natof
- Zone 7: Heit-Murray/Chien
- Zone 8: Katz/Loran
- Zone 9: Chien/Stigger

Mr. Failor said by the June CDC meeting, commissioners should have their round one picks done.

Staff Report:

Mr. Failor said consultants have been hired to help the village rewrite the Zoning Ordinance. Madison Street would be looked at first due to possible upcoming development along the street. Lake Street streetscape and Madison Street streetscape would be going back to the Village Board most likely in June.

Adjournment: The meeting ended at 8:40 p.m.

Angela Schell,

Recording Secretary