

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH COMMISSION OF
THE VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON, WHICH WAS HELD
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012 AT
THE NORTH BARRINGTON VILLAGE HALL
111 OLD BARRINGTON ROAD IN SAID VILLAGE**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

At 7:31 P.M. Chairman Bruce Kramper called the meeting to order and the Deputy Village Clerk called the roll:

Present in Person: Chairman Bruce Kramper, Vice Chairman Patty Kalinowski, Rob Haas,
Jackie Andrew
Absent: None
Also Present: Trustee Gery Herrmann
Trustee Pete Boland
Susan Allman, Village Forester
Nicole Keiter, Deputy Village Clerk

**2. Approval of Past Minutes: Environmental and Health Commission Meeting
October 4, 2011**

The Minutes of the October 4, 2011 Environmental and Health Commission Meeting were made available to the Commission.

Vice Chairman Patty Kalinowski brought it to the Commission's attention that the date listed in the "Motion" portion of the Minutes was incorrect and should be June 7, 2011 to reflect the Meeting Minutes being passed. The Minutes were amended.

Motion: Vice Chairman Patty Kalinowski moved that the Minutes of the October 4, 2011 Environmental and Health Commission Meeting be approved as amended; seconded by Rob Haas.

Discussion: There was some discussion.

Vote on Motion: The voice vote was unanimous in favor.

Chairman Bruce Kramper declared the Minutes of the October 4, 2011 Environmental and Health Commission Meeting approved as amended, and put on file.

3. Additions to ROW Tree Management Ordinance – Susan Allman

Susan Allman, Village Forester, presented the Commission with a portion of the Village Ordinance pertaining to Tree Preservation. In specific, Ms. Allman gave the Commission Section B of Village Ordinance 5-3A-7: Street Right Of Way Tree Management. Ms. Allman explained to the Commission that additions are being proposed to this Ordinance because Tree City USA requires applicants to have a Tree Care Ordinance as part of their Standard 2: A Community Tree Ordinance. She also stated that it could enhance the Village's chance of getting grant money.

Ms. Allman asked the Commission for their thoughts, concerns, and questions. Vice Chairman Patty Kalinowski asked which portion of the material was the current Ordinance, and which portion were proposed additions. Ms. Allman stated that the portion in bold was the current Ordinance and that everything else were proposed additions. Vice Chairman Kalinowski verified that the Commission was not looking at the Ordinance in its entirety to which Ms. Allman stated that they were only looking at the portion that would be amended.

Ms. Andrew questioned why, in paragraph six of the amendments, an addition was needed that states "Trees shall not be closer than 10 feet from private driveways." Ms. Allman stated that it was intended for sight-lines and if the resident wanted to plant trees further back on their property they had the right to. Vice Chairman Kalinowski stated that with the language used it would be assumed that trees could not be planted closer than 10 feet from private driveways anywhere on the property and that it should specifically state that this is only true in the right of way. Ms. Allman stated this addition would be under the header titled "Right of Way Tree Planting" and therefore it would only apply to the right of way. The Commission disagreed with that statement and it was decided that the term "on the right away" should be added to each paragraph, as suggested by Trustee Boland.

Chairman Kramper verified that paragraph eight, "No trees other than those species considered small in stature (i.e. trees with mature heights below 30 feet) may be planted under or within 10 lateral feet of any overhead utility wire, or over or within 5 lateral feet of any underground transmission line or other utility" was added so that the trees would not get tangled in any overheard lines. Ms. Allman stated that that was the intention.

Vice Chairman Kalinowski questioned why, unless stated in another Village Ordinance, property owners would be responsible for reasonable and routine maintenance of trees in the right of way as stated under the addition titled "Property Owners Responsibility." Ms. Allman stated that she was only hoping for "reasonable" maintenance; however, Vice Chairman Kalinowski did not think it was appropriate to use the word "responsible" and also stated that the word "reasonable" was an ambiguous term. Trustee Boland stated perhaps the word "encouraged" should be used in place of "responsible." Vice Chairman Kalinowski suggested that this portion read "Property owners are encouraged to maintain trees on the right of way, which is an extension of the property owner's yard and/or setback." [The original addition read as follows: "Property owners are responsible for the reasonable and routine maintenance of trees on the right of way, which is an extension of the property owner's yard and/or setback.] The Commission agreed that they liked the suggested change.

Chairman Kramper asked if anyone had any concerns with the first paragraph of proposed additions. Vice Chairman Kalinowski stated that the word "unlawful" requires a law to be present and a reaction for unlawful behavior. Vice Chairman Kalinowski suggested replacing the word "unlawful" with the word "discouraged." Chairman Kramper asked how this paragraph in particular would affect Com Ed and their practices of keeping trees out of over head lines. Ms. Allman stated that it would have no affect on Com Ed. Trustee Boland asked for clarification; stating that under the current regulations, it is at the discretion of the Village Forester that tree cutting, trimming, etc. could occur within the Village right of ways. Ms. Allman stated that "trimming" is different than "tree topping." She stated that all of the small branches are cut off during tree topping leaving only one main stalk. She also stated that Com Ed has a set of standards that they are to follow when trimming trees. Trustee Boland then asked what group of people the proposed additions was geared towards. Ms. Allman stated that it was primarily geared towards the Village. Vice Chairman Kalinowski asked how many times the Village has experienced problems with this topic to which Ms. Allman replied that, to her knowledge, we have never had an issue on right of way property.

The Commission raised the issue as to why these additions were necessary if the Village is not currently experiencing any problems with our current Ordinance. Ms. Allman stated that without this, the Village may not remain in “Tree City” status. She stated that the Village needed to show that proper tree maintenance techniques were known and followed and that these additions would be minimally acceptable to Tree City. Ms. Allman also stated that the Village was missing a “Tree Planting” section to the Ordinance. Vice Chairman asked if these additions were being written to target problems within the Village where residents have been doing something wrong, or if it was just to suffice Tree City. Ms. Allman stated that residents were not doing anything wrong, that it was primarily to suffice Tree City, and that it was also being written to give the Village some guidelines on how trees in the right of way should be maintained.

Vice Chairman Kalinowski stated that the word “unlawful” should be removed from paragraph five of the additions, “Notice or Wires,” as well. Chairman Kramper asked if this addition would prohibit residents from attaching cables to a tree that was damaged in some way in an attempt to save it. Ms. Allman stated that this is geared towards cabling for a fence. Vice Chairman Kalinowski stated that if a resident were to read this paragraph they could potentially not save a tree due to the fact that this tells them they are not allowed to “...attach any cable, wire, rope, or sign to any Village tree...” Ms. Allman stated that it was geared towards residents not being able to attach signs advertising for a garage sale, etc., and also stated that we do not currently have a problem with this.

Chairman Kramper asked the Commission if there was a motion for a recommendation on these additions.

Motion: Jackie Andrew moved that the Environmental and Health Commission recommend these additions, as amended, to the Board. There was no second to the motion.

4. Ash Borer Update – Susan Allman

Chairman Kramper asked Ms. Allman for any news, changes, etc. that have occurred within the Village in regards to the Emerald Ash Borer. Ms. Allman stated that she applied for a grant from the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus which has a maximum of \$10,000. She stated that the grant would reforest areas from which trees had been removed due to the Ash Borer disease. She stated that the Village would hear about the grant at the end of February. Ms. Andrew asked if the grant would be for anywhere, or just on the right of way. Ms. Allman stated that it would only apply to the right of way and the area that she has targeted for that project would be Biltmore Drive. Vice Chairman Kalinowski asked how many trees had been removed. Ms. Allman estimated that about twelve trees have been removed to date. Vice Chairman Kalinowski asked where the trees had been removed. Ms. Allman stated that the very first tree identified with the disease on Clover Hill had been removed along with other trees on Timberlake. Chairman Kramper asked when residents would start seeing the effects of the removal of trees, the Emerald Ash Borer disease, etc. Ms. Allman stated that it will become noticeable come late spring and summer when some trees do not come back to life, suffer diebacks, etc. Mr. Haas asked if the disease would become worse due to our mild winter. Ms. Allman stated that it could have an affect; however, it would be a “wait and see” situation come spring.

Ms. Allman stated that a tree inventory was going to be conducted in the Village as part of a program called “Trees Count.” She stated that it will begin in March and will give us a good profile of what kinds of trees the Village has in the right of ways as well as aiding in the development of a

management plan for the trees. She stated that to be considered for this program was a result of having "Tree City" status. Ms. Allman also noted that she also applied for a Growth Award this year.

5. Arbor Day – Susan Allman

Ms. Allman stated that Arbor Day is officially celebrated on the fourth Friday of April. She shared that this year she planned to plant a tree at Village Hall in a celebration on April 28th. Ms. Allman stated that she wanted to partner with Trustee Herrmann on Arbor Day with some type of recycling event. Ms. Allman brought up the fact that Cuba Township is planning to hold a recycling event at Village Hall on April 21st which will accept all types of paint and stain, old tire, batteries, light bulbs, computers and monitors, small appliances and other small electronics, as well as offer document shredding services. Trustee Herrmann stated that a different kind of recycling event can still be held in conjunction with Arbor Day. Trustee Herrmann stated that the Village could do an event that featured recycling bins, compost bins, rain barrels, etc. He stated that a presentation could be done by SWALCO at this event which would be a celebration of both Arbor Day and Earth Day. Trustee Herrmann also stated that the Village could change the plans for Arbor Day to line up with the recycling program Cuba Township is holding at Village Hall. Chairman Kramper stated that he felt it was important, when doing events like this, to get information to residents as far in advance as possible. Chairman Kramper stated that he felt a presentation from SWALCO would be beneficial and that lining it up with the recycling program Cuba Township is hosting would draw more residents. Trustee Herrmann stated that Water Willis, of SWALCO, will be making a presentation to the Board at the February Board Meeting on the new guidelines for recycling and the goals that are trying to be reached in the future. SWALCO, he stated, is pushing by 2020 to have the residents of Lake County recycling 60% of all waste; currently the number is at 40%.

The Commission decided that all of the activities should be done in conjunction with the April 21st recycling event held by Cuba Township. Trustee Herrmann will speak with SWALCO and see if a presentation can be made.

6. Septic Maintenance Update

Chairman Kramper asked for an update on the Septic Maintenance program from Deputy Village Clerk Nicole Keiter. Ms. Keiter stated that the first group of letters to homeowners was sent out in September. At this time the Village has compliance from approximately 45-50% of those homeowners. She also stated that many septic companies send the Village the form after pumping any resident's tank, confusing the process a bit. When that occurs, if the resident had not been notified yet that it was time to turn in the information, a letter is sent explaining the process and asking whether the resident prefers to start earlier than their designated "start time." Ms. Keiter stated that a reminder letter will be mailed by the end of the week to those residents not yet in compliance extending the date to turn in materials by sixty days. If the materials are not turned in residents face a fine of \$250 in accordance with the Ordinance.

Trustee Herrmann asked how many residents have called to complain about the Ordinance and process. Ms. Keiter stated that many residents are happy with the new Ordinance. At most, the residents call to question why the Ordinance was put into effect. Chairman Kramper asked if a fine was to be levied, where would it be enforced. Trustee Boland stated that the Village has an Administrative Adjudicator which would be their responsibility.

7. Semi-Annual Pick Up of Electronics

Trustee Herrmann reiterated that Walter Willis of SWALCO will be at the February Board Meeting to give a presentation on the new recycling guidelines of electronics as well as the goals for Lake County. It was also stated that Cuba Township will have two major electronics recycling events each year.

8. Old/New Business

Chairman Kramper stated that a proposition to purchase some property, in conjunction with the Barrington Area Conservation Trust was made at the last Board Meeting. The property is located east of Lafferty Park on Route 22. He stated that there are 34 acres for sale as well as a property just east of that, in Lake Zurich, that is approximately 25 acres.

Ms. Andrew asked the Commission if anyone was interested in a light pollution program. Chairman Kramper stated that there was a lot of uproar from residents in Barrington Hills over that kind of program. Ms. Keiter stated that a presentation had been made to North Barrington's Plan Commission a year or so ago regarding this type of program and the Commission decided not to pursue it. Ms. Andrew stated that she was thinking of gearing it towards an awareness campaign.

9. Adjournment

Motion: Vice Chairman Patty Kalinowski moved the Meeting be adjourned; seconded by Jackie Andrew.

Discussion: There was no discussion.

Vote on Motion: The voice vote was unanimous in favor.

At 8:24 p.m. Chairman Bruce Kramper declared the meeting adjourned.

These Minutes were approved at the Environmental and Health Commission Meeting held June 5, 2012.

ATTEST:

_____, Nicole Keiter, Deputy Village Clerk