

CITY OF ORCHARD LAKE VILLAGE

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY SANCTUARY BOARD MEETING

August 4, 2014

Chairman Hoffman called the Quarterly Meeting of the City of Orchard Lake Village Nature Sanctuary Advisory Board to order at 7:05 p.m. on August 4, 2014 at the Orchard Lake City Hall.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chairman Hoffman, Board Members Dusek, Graham, Itin, Hirschfield, Fink, Smiley, Nelson and City Clerk McClellan

ABSENT: Board Member Cooper

MAY 5, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

A MOTION WAS OFFERED BY BOARD MEMBER GRAHAM AND SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER ITIN TO APPROVE THE MAY 5, 2014 QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES OF THE ORCHARD LAKE NATURE SANCTUARY BOARD.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0

WILDLIFE AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Wildlife Survey – Amphibian and Reptile Inventory/David Mifsud Status

Board Member Dusek stated that he checked in with David Mifsud for an update on the status of the Amphibian and Reptile Inventory and received an e-mail back from him. David Mifsud replied that he has conducted two of the three surveys. One on May 17th and one on June 10th with the final one proposed for mid-August. He has documented several species observed in previous works as well as a few new ones (see attached e-mail (dated 8/3/2014) for detail information). Mr. Mifsud did note that the site does have some very nice sections and in most cases even where invasives dominate, herps are still present. Board Member Dusek commented that he was happy with the results so far.

Chairman Hoffman stated that he was out in the Nature Sanctuary today and noticed some live traps that he assumed were there for the survey. Board Member Graham commented that we should check with David Mifsud to make sure that they are his traps and Board Member Dusek replied that he would.

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Birds

Board Member Smiley commented that he has not checked the bird's inventory on the website and that he would plan to look into it before the next meeting. He commented that the website that he checks is "ebirds.org" which is a website that anyone can enter information on what kind of birds they have spotted and where. He commented that once on the site, go to "local hot spots" and from there select the Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary.

Invasive Species

Garlic Mustard

Board Member Nelson stated that WHAM was not available this year to do the Garlic Mustard pull, but that he was able to go out and weed whack some of the garlic mustard. He commented that for the areas that he did weed whack, it did not appear to be growing back. Chairman Hoffman commented that he noted that the myrtle population was way down this year presumably due to the spraying that was done last year.

Plant Wise – Status/Action

Chairman Hoffman stated that the City has received a letter from PlantWise that provides a brief outline of the work they recommend to do on the site this season (see attached PlantWise Letter dated 7/10/14 for detailed information). The board reviewed the information and agreed to the work suggested in principal, recognizing that some of it may not be completed as we have budgeted \$4,500 max for the work this year.

Board Member Dusek commented about the chemicals used near the water's edge and stated that he believed they were using a conservative agent near the marsh and that it would not be applied until after the fall and he was ok with this.

Chairman Hoffman advised that Board Member Nelson contact David Mindell of Plant Wise and let him know that the Board is ok with PlantWise's suggestions, with-in the allowed \$4,500 budget. PlantWise is to use their discretion on which items to address, but must not overspend the allocated amount (\$4,500).

SANCTUARY SIGN REPLACEMENT – DISCUSSION/STATUS

At the May 5th meeting, the condition of the entrance sign was discussed, and it noted that the original sign is cracking and probably could not be repaired. Board Member Nelson stated that he would look into getting quotes for a replacement sign before the next Board meeting. He stated that he is looking

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into a material that looks like whatever surface you would like and is weather proof. The desire would be to have the replacement sign be a duplicate of the existing design.

TOUR UPDATE

Fall Schedule

Board Member Fink stated that she would speak with the Historical Society to come up with a date for the Fall Tour and then she would e-mail the Board to let them know when it would be. Board Member Nelson stated that he would put the sign out mentioning the tour and purchase the sapling trees to be handed out at the fall tour.

THERE WAS A MOTION BY BOARD MEMBER DUSEK AND SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER GRAHAM TO APPROVE UP TO \$50.00 TO PURCHASE SAPLING TREES TO HAND OUT ON THE FALL TOUR.

PROPERTY SITE MANAGEMENT – DISCUSSION – 2014 ACTIONS

Chairman Hoffman stated that he and Police Chief George decided to close the Sanctuary for the Fourth of July weekend, at noon each day, to divert people who use the Sanctuary as a way to enter the lake. He commented that the City received no complaints about the early closing. Chairman Hoffman stated that this action was brought up at the last City Council Meeting just so that everyone was aware of what was going on.

Chairman Hoffman also stated that this next weekend was the annual volleyball tournament on Upper Straits Lake and that he was going to speak with the Chief and recommend having it closed this weekend also. The Nature Sanctuary Board Members supported this action, and also supported closing the Nature Sanctuary for the long Labor Day weekend.

DPW ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS

Button Bush Shrub Planting – Status

Board Member Nelson stated that the Button Bush Shrubs that were purchased by Board Member Graham appear to be doing fine. Board Member Graham commented that she purchased something from the same nursery that never budded so she wanted to make sure that these were ok.

Definition of New Growth in “Old Woods”

Board Member Nelson stated that he never spoke with David Mindell of Plant Wise about what was growing in the Old Woods. There was discussion about what it looked like, but none of the Board Members knew what it was either.

Summer/Fall Activities/Needs

Board Member Nelson commented that the hemlocks that he planted are getting to be a good size and that there was a tree down on the pavilion that was removed and the roof was repaired. He also has been checking the trails and cutting downed trees. Chairman Hoffman stated that when he was out in the Sanctuary earlier in the day that the garbage lids were off on all the trash cans and thought that maybe it was the raccoons removing the lids. He also noted a loose board on one of the benches, but it was already being repaired by Zack Nelson, part time help for the DPW by the time he was leaving the Sanctuary. He commented that he thought the Sanctuary looked great. Board Member Hirschfield commented that the prairie with all of the wildflowers this year looks great.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Clerk McClellan stated that the financial report has been revised to reflect what has been used in regard to the St. Francis Foundation grant monies – report attached.

2014-15 MEETING SCHEDULE REVIEW

Board Member Graham stated that the next Sanctuary Board meeting would be on Monday, November 3, 2014 and that we would meet in the small meeting room as there was an election the next day.

ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BOARD MEMBER GRAHAM MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:05 P.M. BOARD MEMBER NELSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

MOTION CARRIED 8-0



Mark Hoffman
Chairman



Rhonda R. McClellan
City Clerk