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VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON
PLAN COMMISSION MINUTES
Monday, July 12, 2021

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m.

Roll Call

Roll Call was answered by Chairman Herrmann, Michael Beightol, Kim Ritschel, Ken Such, James Zakos.

Also present were Trustee Liaison, Kevin Horcher; Village Clerk, Sue Murdy.

In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order #2020-07, in person attendance requirements under the Open Meetings Act have been suspended and relaxed.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

**Consideration of Land Donation – 225 Honey Lake Court, North Barrington, IL 60010
(Lot 23 In Grassmere Farm Subdivision)**

Chairman Herrmann referred to the map of the property at 225 Honey Lake Court, North Barrington, IL (Lot 23 in Grassmere Farm Subdivision) in the Commission packet. He also referred to the map showing other property currently owned by the Village in addition to Village owned unimproved roads and right of ways obtained through donations. Michael Beightol asked if this was the first land donation located south of Hwy. 22 being considered by the Village. Chairman Herrmann reviewed the history of the property being considered. The original property owner lived adjacent to the property at one point. The property was previously on the market for sale. The owner has since moved and approached the Village to determine if the Village would like to accept the property as a donation. There are currently no formal plans by the Village to develop the property. Chairman Herrmann stated that except for Eton Park, the majority of donated property within the Village is undeveloped. Chairman Herrmann stated that he has walked the property, briefly described its terrain and stated he found it difficult to access. Chairman Herrmann explained that some dredging materials were placed on the property during the Haverton drainage project. The property's asset is a small drainage creek that runs through Oaksbury, underneath Honey Lake Road, draining into Honey Lake. He stated that it would be a challenge to build a house on the property. Ken Such asked if the property owners living on the adjacent property have been approached regarding the future of the piece of property. Chairman Herrmann requested a motion to proceed with a discussion to consider the land donation of the property at 225 Honey Lake Court, North Barrington, IL 60010 (Lot 23 In Grassmere Farm Subdivision). James Zakas made a motion to discuss consideration of the land donation of the property at 225 Honey Lake Court, North Barrington, IL 60010 (Lot 23 In Grassmere Farm Subdivision); the motion was seconded by Kim Ritschel. On roll call vote Chairman Herrmann, Michael Beightol, Kim Ritschel, Ken Such and James Zakos voted Aye. No Nays. Motion carried. Jim Zakos stated he looked at the property,

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does not see any negatives to accepting the donation and feels that any effort towards green space preservation for future generations is a positive action. He does not see that there would be any real estate tax burden to the Village by accepting the donation, and any future development would be precluded by the Village acquiring the property as well. There could be a slight increase to the Village liability insurance to cover the property. Mr. Zakos stated that it's a good-looking piece of property with natural habitat. Ken Such commented that the adjacent neighbors may be concerned about having an unattended park next to their property, along with people traversing the area unencumbered. Chairman Herrmann responded that a park would be more desirable than construction of a house. Kim Ritschel stated that she agreed with all the points brought up in the above discussion. Michael Beightol stated that he drove past the property. He voiced his comments regarding the limitations of the scale of the responsibility of the Plan Commission in considering this donation. He feels it is for the Board of Trustees to make the final determination. Chairman Herrmann stated that previous land donations were not considered by the Plan Commission. He stated that the property is similar to other parks within the Village, then referred to the map showing Village wildlife refuge and other Village parks, with the exception of Eton Park, all being similar to this property. Chairman Herrmann sees no downside to the Village accepting the donation. Michael Beightol mentioned the consideration of other taxing jurisdictions, such as the School District, the Township, Harper College, and whether the Plan Commission has an obligation to inform them. Chairman Herrmann mentioned that this issue is now being addressed. Kim Ritschel asked if anyone knew the amount of property taxes on the land. There was some discussion. The Commission feels there is no downside to the Village accepting the land donation. Chairman Herrmann requested a motion for the Plan Commission to recommend to the Village Board of Trustees that the Village accept the land donation of 225 Honey Lake Court, North Barrington, IL 60010 (Lot 23 in Grassmere Farm Subdivision). Michael Beightol moved that the Plan Commission make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees that the Village accept the land donation of 225 Honey Lake Court, North Barrington, IL 60010 (Lot 23 in Grassmere Farm Subdivision). Kim Ritschel seconded the motion. On roll count Chairman Herrmann, Michael Beightol, Kim Ritschel, Ken Such and James Zakos voted Aye. No Nays. Motion carried.

Old Business/New Business

Chairman Herrmann stated the only old Village business relevant to the Plan Commission that arose during covid was the Village allowed resident Ludlow to acquire a small parcel of a road easement at the end of Oxford Drive, adjacent to 483 E. Oxford. There is still an easement for the path. There was discussion about the possibility of extending the path from E. Oxford to Shady Ln.

There was discussion of new business regarding the use of golf carts by residents on the streets of North Barrington, specifically the Biltmore and Oaksbury Subdivisions. Chairman Herrmann stated the possibility of the issue being recommended by the Board of Trustees to the Plan

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Commission for discussion and recommendations. Chairman Herrmann stated that currently the use of golf carts on public roadways in Illinois is illegal, unless allowed and regulated by the local jurisdiction. Ken Such voiced his concern over nearly hitting a golf cart on several occasions. Chairman Herrmann stated that a very vocal minority of residents favor the use of golf carts on the Village roadways and considers it a very hot topic. Michael Beightol stated that he felt the issue is contentious and would eventually be delegated to the Plan Commission for discussion and recommendation. He hopes there would be extensive support from the Village Attorney, and Ordinances along with expert testimony from law enforcement and other jurisdictions. James Zakos stated there are problems with golf carts piled with children on the roadways. Chairman Herrmann stated that Biltmore Country Club currently allows golf carts to be used as shuttles between the clubhouse and the beach/pool area. Chairman Herrmann will advise the Plan Commission in the event the issue of golf carts on the roadways is referred to them by the Board of Trustees.

There is currently no action pending regarding to the horse farm located at the intersection of Hwy. 22 and Hwy. 59.

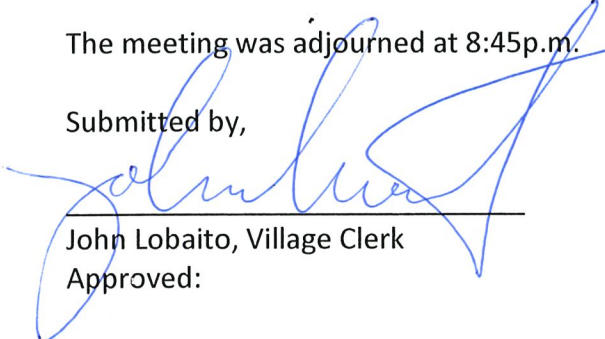
Ken Such brought up the possibility of placing signage designating the Village of North Barrington in various locations. There was brief discussion. Chairman Herrmann stated that placing signage would create a need for maintenance, and that there are currently no funds in the budget for signage.

Adjournment

Motion by Kim Ritschel and seconded by James Zakos to adjourn the meeting. On roll call vote Chairman Herrmann, Michael Beightol, Kim Ritschel, Ken Such, and James Zakos voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45p.m.

Submitted by,



John Lobaito, Village Clerk

Approved:

