

# **THE PLAN COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2018**

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Plan Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

A quorum was present. Chairman Patricia Letarte, Daniel Particelli, Teresa Badillo, Mike Rickert, William Thorn and Alma Montenegro, Elyse Vukelich (Planner), Nick Walny (Planner), John Schneider (Director of Community Development), and Andy Smolen (Deputy Commissioner/Arborist). All members were present.

2. Member Rickert made a motion to accept the minutes of January 24, 2018 as presented. Member Badillo seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.
3. Public Comment: None.
4. Old Business: None
5. New Business: None.
6. Staff Update: Landscaping and Tree Planting Presentation

Mr. Schneider introduced Andy Smolen, the Village's Arborist and Deputy Utilities Commissioner, and informed the members that Mr. Smolen would be giving a presentation on landscaping and tree planting throughout the Village.

Mr. Smolen gave a very detailed power point presentation on all the landscaping and tree planting that has been done within the Village. He discussed several grants that the Village was awarded. He discussed putting into place a Landscape Ordinance for the Village. He stated that the Village of Franklin Park has achieved Tree City USA status and with that, the Village is more likely to receive future grants. Mr. Smolen stated that the Village has received a \$15,000 grant for tree planting already. He discussed the pros of planting trees and what benefits it has for people and the environment.

Mr. Smolen stated that the Village would like to see a diversity of trees planted in town. He discussed the various types of trees and what trees work well within certain parts of the Village. He introduced Trustee Special to the podium at this time. Trustee Special stated that they are targeting certain areas of town to maintain their properties and landscaping aesthetic. It is important for the community.

Member Letarte thanked them for their wonderful presentation at this time. Member Letarte stated that there be a focus on the elementary and middle school as well as the high school students. They should have some form of environmental education taught and have volunteer opportunities for them to promote landscaping and tree planting within the Village.

It was discussed that each Plan Commission member take the opportunity to locate five (5) spots where a tree would work in their specific area of town for planting. Each member agreed to this unique opportunity.

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7. Member Rickert made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Plan Commission. It was seconded by Member Badillo. The motion was carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Lisa M Manzo*

Lisa M. Manzo  
Plan Commission Secretary