

**TREE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN PARK, COOK COUNTY
APRIL 11th 2023**

The regular meeting of the Tree Preservation was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Village of Franklin Park Police Station, Community Room, located at 9451 W. Belmont Avenue, Franklin Park, Illinois 60131

Andy Smolen led the Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENT: Members Joan Ambo, Jennifer Costa, Les Grahn, Ramona Michael and Sylvia Noth

Sustainability, Forestry, Parkways and Facilities Director (SFPFD) Andrew Smolen and Trustee Karen Special were also present

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Members elected Ramona Michael as Chairperson, Joan Ambo as Co-Chairperson and Jennifer Costa as secretary.

Meetings will be held every third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

REPORT FROM VILLAGE BOARD LIAISON

Trustee Special: no report

**REPORT FROM VILLAGE UTILITIES DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE/
SUSTAINABILITY, FORESTRY, PARKWAYS AND FACILITIES DIRECTOR**

SFPFD Smolen thanks the members for being a part of this board and expressed how happy he was to have this board come together. He took a moment to introduce each member and how he was associated with them. He is looking forward to everyone working together.

NEW BUSINESS

Earth Day Celebration April 22, 2023, at North Park

Member Costa explained Earth Day in detail because the Park District is hosting the event, she explained that there are 23 participants, in which the Village of Franklin Park will have multiple tables and Director Andy will have two tables dedicated to the education of trees and have a sign-up sheet for residents to request trees.

Arbor Day Celebration May 06, 2023, at Franklin Park Public Library

SFPFD Smolen explained that a donation of approximately 100 trees from Morton Arboretum – Chicago Region of Trees was given to the Village of Franklin Park. 60 trees will be planted on Arbor Day at the Franklin Park Library. The other trees will be planted in the median of Crown Road and at North Elementary school with the help of East Leyden and the elementary students at a later date. Remaining trees will be donated to the Park District of Franklin Park.

OTHER BUSINESS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Michael presented a flyer to the members about the importance of trees, and to encourage residents to plant trees on their property. Edits will be made to the flyer and passed out to residents on Earth Day on April 22nd.

Member Ambo would like to create a sign-up sheet from "Sign up Genius" to make the process for signing up to receive trees easier for residents by utilizing the Village of Franklin Park's website and social media platforms.

SFPFD Smolen announced that the Village of Franklin Park will be holding for the second year the "Honeybee Day " in August. He stated that his goal is to convert asphalt slaps throughout town into green, plant growing areas and gave an example of Mission Printing on Franklin Avenue.

Goals are to provide tree canopy and to preserve and protect the trees in the neighborhood. Try to teach the younger generation the importance of trees in an educational fun way that they may understand.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

7:16 p.m.