

Village staff is also seeking any additional suggestions and feedback from the Commission in order to provide the Village Board with a comprehensive recommendation. Director Caracci stated that the T.P.O. is comprised of three separate ordinances: *Tree Preservation on Private Property* (Ordinance 4925), *Tree Preservation on Public Property* (Ordinance 4926) and *Arboricultural Specifications Manual* (Ordinance 4927). He explained that moving forward the desire would be to address any issues obtained in all three ordinances at once.

The Private Property Tree Preservation Ordinance is currently voluntary in nature, with the Village relying on education and buy-in from the development community to encourage the protection of private property trees. There are several aspects of the private property tree preservation ordinance that should be reviewed by the Commission. The first is how to better manage private trees in side yard setbacks and on neighboring properties. Director Caracci stated that the Management Team recommends rewriting this portion of the ordinance to clear up any interpretation issues and define exactly how the Village would handle these situations. He detailed the Management Team's recommendation, with comment from Commission members and residents then ensuing.

Controlling clear cutting is another issue with regards to the private property tree ordinance that must be reviewed. Director Caracci first stated that the Village Board and Management Team have struggled throughout the years to find a way to eliminate clear cutting, while not infringing on private property rights. Regulating the removal of every tree on private property would eliminate clear cutting, but it would infringe upon private property rights, as well as over burden an already lean Village Staff. After careful thought and discussion, the Management Team's recommendation to best manage clear cutting is to limit the number of trees removed on private property over a specific period of time. Director Caracci stated that other suggestions to control clear cutting are welcomed by Village Staff. Enforcement of this idea would also be an issue as the Village does not have the man power to check up on each and every property. Commissioner Glaza suggested information be obtained on what neighboring communities are doing about this issue. Director Caracci responded that he would look into this. All members at the meeting agreed that when it comes to clear cutting, builders are the biggest concern.

Director Caracci also presented information on methods to better promote tree preservation and discourage violation among the community. Following Director Caracci's presentation on private property tree preservation, there was much discussion between Director Caracci, Commission members and members of the public. Director Caracci noted that the Management Team is looking at methods to better promote tree preservation through education, fines and penalties and a Heritage Tree Program. He would like to get the Environmental Commission to look at some of the fine details of the Management Team recommendations and provide their input.

The Public Property Tree Preservation Ordinance was developed to enhance the public portion of the community forest by assuring the preservation, protection, planting and proper maintenance of parkway trees. The Management Team would like to revisit this ordinance to see if it can be enhanced to encompass tree value and residents rights. The first issue is determining the best mechanism/process for assigning a tree value to each tree in the Village's inventory. When calculating a tree's value, the Village uses The Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers Guide. It gives an industry wide standard and the Village has been using

it for many years. Recently, the Village Board questioned whether the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers Guide is the best method to assign value. Instead, it was suggested that a simpler dollar per inch method could be used to calculate tree value. The Management Team recommends that the current tree value calculation method not be changed as the simpler method does not take into consideration the species or health of the tree.

Director Caracci also spoke about circumstances under which a resident should be allowed to request the removal of parkway trees. He stated that the Village has a very comprehensive policy regarding the removal of parkway trees, and with the exception of access to the right-of-way, parkway tree removal requests by residents are typically denied. The Village Board is looking for feedback from the two groups to determine if the T.P.O. should provide more of a balance between protection of public trees versus providing the opportunity for functional improvements to property. Director Caracci detailed the Management Team's recommendations and noted that he would like the Commission to review these recommendations and provide feedback.

Another discussion point on the public T.P.O is how the Village can better improve Village contractor's compliance with the public T.P.O. Director Caracci stated that private contractors have made great strides in recent years in complying with the public T.P.O. as a result of the Village oversight. Director Caracci would like to ensure that the Village's contractors also comply with the T.P.O., which will require additional planning and monitoring on behalf of the Village Staff. With regard to this topic, no modifications are recommended to the public T.P.O. Village staff will remain diligent in its oversight of private contractors and will work to increase its oversight of Village contractor's compliance with the T.P.O.

One of the final topics with respect to the public property tree preservation ordinance is what additional measures can be taken to improve preservation or avoid conflicts with trees. Director Caracci stated that much of the damage to public trees is a result of utility installations (water and sewer), irrigation system installations and driveway/sidewalk installations. The Management Team has come up with several recommendations to assist in the improvement of public tree protection. Director Caracci detailed these recommendations and discussion then ensued among the commission.

The final topic Director Caracci wanted to touch on was the Village's authority to address the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and Dutch Elm Disease on public and private property. New provisions the Management Team has created will allow the Village to require the property owner to remove a diseased tree. If the tree is not removed within a certain time period, the Village will remove the tree at the homeowner's expense. If the homeowner does not reimburse the Village, the Village then has the right to put a lien on the property until full payment is made.

The Arboricultural Standards Manual was the third portion of the TPO addressed by Director Caracci. There are three minor modifications to this manual that the Management Team believes are necessary, including the inclusion of mulching standards, better defining species diversification and modifications to tree spacing recommendations.

In conclusion, Director Caracci stated that it is important for the Commission to understand the T.P.O. process is a joint effort between Village staff and the Environmental Commission. Any

information that would provide additional insight on tree preservation to the Commission could be provided by Village staff. Commission members requested that staff conduct a surrounding community survey on tree preservation regulations in the Chicagoland area. The timeline for bringing the T.P.O. recommendations to the Village Board was then discussed, with August or September as possible months. It was then determined that additional discussion on the T.P.O. would be held at the June 2010 Environmental Commission meeting.

B. Review of 2010 Recycling Extravaganza-

Chairman Marcott informed the Commission there are 11 more months until the next Extravaganza. He also informed the Commission that they might be able to schedule an electronics event in conjunction with the Extravaganza next year. Commissioner Pellico informed the Commission he thought the Extravaganza went very well. The number of cars has increased and the organization and flow of the event was terrific. Commissioner Rahn said with the exception of a few minor issues the Book Exchange also went very well. Commission members discussed minor changes and made several suggestions for next year such as changing traffic flow and reinforcing to the public that the event accepts plastics. Staff Liaison Schrader asked members to make sure that they provide information to her on how much of each item was collected at the event.

C. Launch of Rain Barrel Program-

Chairman Marcott reviewed with the Commission that the Village Board has approved \$2,000 for the Rain Barrel Program in lieu of the \$8,000 the Commission requested. Chairman Marcott stated that Commissioner Glaza's idea of a \$40 reimbursement per rain barrel, rather than the originally proposed \$80, would be more advantageous for the program because it would allow more residents to take part in the program. Commission members agreed this was a good idea. Commissioner Westcott motioned to approve the Rain Barrel Program and Commissioner Glaza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commission members agreed there should be three items residents must comply with in order to receive the reimbursement: a receipt of purchase, a photograph of the installed barrel and a completed application form. Staff Liaison Schrader suggested using the Lombard form as a basis for the Village's form and members agreed. Commissioner Glaza informed the Commission it will be important to promote the program with the usual press releases, Village newsletter, e-Blast, message board, water bill, etc. Staff Liaison Schrader stated that she will write the press release and Chairman Marcott will create the application form. Commissioner Rahn asked if it is going to be made clear to residents that it will be a \$40 reimbursement *for the first 50 residents only*. Commission members agreed this is important. Staff Liaison Schrader said residents that come in will have their application time stamped so that it is clear who the first 50 residents are. Commission members agreed the start of the program should be June 1, 2010.

D. Commercial Recycling Award-

Chairman Marcott informed the Commission that Tap House Grill is the first applicant for the Commercial Recycling Award. He asked members to review the application. Discussion ensued on the application and it was determined that Tap House Grill met all of the requirements to receive the award. The conversation then turned to the presentation of the award to Tap House Grill. It was determined that the award should be presented at a Village

Board Meeting. Chairman Marcott will contact Tap House grill to determine an upcoming Board Meeting date the owners are available.

5. Chairman's Report –

Chairman Marcott informed the Commission that Student Liaison Kinsey's last meeting is fast approaching. He asked when her last meeting would be and she informed the Commission she would be in attendance until July or August.

6. Trustee Liaison Report –

Trustee Liaison Hartweg updated the Commission on the status of road repairs. He also reminded the Commission that water rates will go up June 1.

7. Staff Liaison Report –

Staff Liaison Schrader informed the Commission that the Clean Sweep event went very well and only took two days to clean up. She also distributed "Bike to Work Week" posters for commissioners to post around the Village.

8. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment –

The next scheduled regular meeting will be held on June 15, 2010. A motion was made by Commissioner Rahn, seconded by Commissioner Westcott, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

D'Arcy Greenleaf, Environmental Commission Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:

Kristen Schrader, Environmental Commission Staff Liaison