

## **Greenspace Committee Board Minutes**

**4/24/23**

**Administration Building 500 s. Broadway, Beverly Shores, In.**

Margaret Williford, President called the meeting to. Order at 10:00am

**Present.** Larry Stanton, Margaret Williford, Terry Bonice, Joan Solbeck, Tom Dodd and Town Liaison Susan Loeb. Absent Barbara Vanecko and Ausra Zarins

The 11/16/22 minutes were unanimously approved.

Margaret was nominated for President and Barbara for Secretary. Both were unanimously approved.

Tom Dodd, a new member was introduced.

Several inquiries have been made about donations. Recent ones have not been willing to pay taxes and clear titles. Tyson Lagoni offered to help the committee.

Margaret thinks we need a push to raise interest in donating properties. People with an interest in the town are more likely to donate unbuildable lots and pay the taxes. Brochure supply low. Needs to be reprinted.

Terry and Margaret will take on getting a mailing out. All members should think about what else we can do to raise awareness of ability to donate.

Terry suggested we get the brochures to Nancy Nichols to be included in all the packages to new residents.

Last year we had two donations from people who had connections to the town.

Terry offered to update maps with addresses or cross streets.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust has areas of concentration and stewardship in town.. There are 19 lots in Beverly Shores outside of their interest area that possibly could be donated. We need to vet that they are in town and visit each. One looks like it possibly is in the lake.

We currently have 22 lots only five of which have covenants. Since most of our lots do not have covenants, it seems reasonable not to require them on these lots. Possibly Shirley Heinze could get a discount clearing the titles because of the amount of work they do with the title company, Terry mentioned that maybe they would give us a chipper to help with stewardship on the land.

Larry suggested we take pictures of all lots for comparison in the future. Margaret, Tom, Larry, Terry and Joan will visit sites at 1pm. June 8th. Meet in the parking lot. Looking for something not typical for the area. Tom will print out new maps.

Terry will schedule an ERG/ Greenspace training session for the end of September/October. Limited to 20. One on Friday and one on Saturday.

Discussed it would be nice to identify Greenspace lots. Larry will look into it.

Next meeting June 5th at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Solbeck



The June 5, 2023 Green Space Committee Meeting was called to order at the Beverly Shores Administration Building at 9:00 AM by our President, Margaret Williford.

Attending the meeting were Joan Solbeck, Barbara Vanecko, Larry Stanton, Tom Dodd, and Terry Bonace by phone.

Absent: were Ausra Zarins and our Liaison to the Town Council, Susan Loeb.

Discussion centered around the lots that Shirley Heinze has been talking about donating to Green Space. A group representing Green Space decided to meet at the BS train station on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00PM to visit some of those lots. Larry and Tom will check out those properties on the West side of town and Joan, Margaret and Terry will visit those East of Broadway. Tom will print maps of the lots on Route 12. There is evidence of disturbances on Route 12 as expected due to the Double Track Railroad work. We do feel it is important to visit all of the lots so that we can tell the Town Council that we approve of the donation.

We discussed the requirements for Title Reports showing the condition of the lots we will accept. We will try to get each donation without any restrictive covenances.

The timeline for getting the Shirley Heinze transfers done is by the Fall of this year. We will strive to get this transfer done on time.

Terry mentioned again that he needs a chipper for our work days when we steward our lots. ERG could own the chipper and we discussed a fund raiser to purchase the one which is for sale at Chesterton Feed for \$700.00. Joan volunteered to contact Linda Wagner at Friends of Beverly Shores to see if that group might be able to donate a chipper.

The tentative dates set for future work days are Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM, and Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM. We will promote these dates as the time gets closer. We will promote our purpose to learn about invasive species eradication and will contact former participants who have previously been trained as well as those who are ready to learn.

Our Green Space Brochure was produced in 2018 and Doug Wolfe helped us with it. We need to update a few items in the brochure and print a new supply. Since it is in PDF format we should contact Doug to see if he has records from 2018.

It seemed to some of us that providing signage on lots that have been contributed through the efforts of Green Space might be helpful. Larry said that he will find out about sourcing that Shirley Heinze uses for labels on trees.

We briefly touched on trying to promote the idea that some folks in town might be interested in granting money to pay back taxes on lots that might be considered for donations.

We adjourned our meeting at 9:50 AM and agreed to meet again on July 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted.  
Barbara Vanecko, Secretary

## **Green Space meeting**

**July 10, 2023**

Green Space meeting was called to order at the BS Administration building at 9AM by Margaret Williford. Attending: Joan Solbeck, Terry Bonace, Larry Stanton, Thomas Dodd, Ausra Zarins and Town Council Representative Susan Loeb; absent: Barbara Vanecko. June 5 meeting minutes were approved by Larry and seconded by Joan.

Main topic of discussion was the proposed donation of 23 lots by the Shirley Heinz Land Trust. All the sites were visited by either Tom & Larry or Joan, Terry & Margaret. After the site visits, Terry compiled an informational sheet for each site including lot number, picture & description. There is also a map showing the location of each site. This informational packet was prepared for presentation to the Town Council. TC member Matrona Malek had previously indicated to Margaret that she would like to tour the sites. Margaret and Terry will arrange that.

One point of concern is the Title Reports required for each lot cost of \$125.00 -- for a total of \$2875.00. Green Space does not have a budget. There was discussion if we should ask the TC to waive this step. However, Friends of Beverly Shores president Linda Wagner has indicated that FOBS would be willing to fund this expense. Thank You Linda and FOBS! The plan for this includes a raffle at Summerfest which Linda will coordinate. She asks that we have a presence at Summerfest, maybe sharing a table with FOBS. To that end, Margaret has had the GS brochure updated. We are thinking that we should also have a banner for the table. Larry will look into that. Larry and Tom will man the Summerfest table. Terry will write an article for Sand Tracks reminding residents of the GS mission.

As discussed at our last meeting, Joan contacted Linda Wanger to see if FOBS would be willing to fund the purchase of a wood chipper for ERG as this assists both ERG and GS with stewarding our lots. She was happy to report that the chipper has been purchased and ERG is in possession of it! Terry with thank Linda in the Sand Tracks article.

We discussed the possibility of being included in the next Town budget. We feel that \$1000.00 would greatly help with our operational expenses. Susan advised us of the TC timeline and advised us on how to proceed.

August Sand Tracks will have an article reminding people of ERG/GS workdays Oct.7 and 13. This information will also be on the Town sign sometime after Summerfest.

Lastly, we discussed the tree signs (tags) that we would like to place on our lots identifying them as Green Space. We feel that metal ones would last longer. Joan will check with Greg Brown to see if this is something he could or would be interested in doing for us. We do not know what cost there be associated with this. This project is still in the developmental stage.

Our next meeting will be August 7 at 9AM. We adjourned at 9:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Ausra Zarins



## **Green Space meeting**

**August 7, 2023**

Green Space meeting was called to order at the BS Administration building at 9AM by Margaret Williford. Attending: Thomas Dodd, Ausra Zarins, Larry Stanton (by phone), and Town Council Representative Susan Loeb; absent: Barbara Vanecko. Joan Solbeck, and Terry Bonace. July 10 meeting minutes were approved by Tom and seconded by Ausra.

The proposed Town Council budget includes \$1000.00 for Green Space which is yet to be approved at their meeting. We are hopeful that this will happen.

Main topic of discussion was the proposed donation of 23 lots by the Shirley Heinz Land Trust. Friends of Beverly Shores (FOBS), as promised, has raised \$3000.00 for us thru a raffle at Summerfest and a FOBS sale. This will cover the cost of the Condition of Title Reports for each lot required by the Town. Thank you, Linda and FOBS! Margaret will inform Patty at Shirley Heinz that we have the money available and she will move forward working with her board and Meridian Title.

Margaret will also forward to Geoff Benson the Site status report prior to the next Town Council meeting and ask to be put on the agenda.

August Sand Tracks ran an article by Terry regarding ERG/GS workdays Oct.7 and 13. The October 5<sup>th</sup> workday will start at 10 am, so we will provide coffee and donuts. Ausra will take care of the coffee and Margaret will bring the donuts. On Oct 13, we will meet at 1 pm, so only bottles of water will be provided, by whom has not yet been determined.

We are all encouraged to attend the Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting where, hopefully, our lots will be accepted.

Our next meeting will be August 28 at 9AM. Future meeting: Sept. 25 and October 30.

We adjourned at 9:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Ausra Zarins

## **Green Space meeting**

**October 2, 2023**

Green Space meeting was called to order at the BS Ad building at 9 AM by Chairperson, Margaret Williford. Attending: Ausra Zarins, Larry Stanton, Terry Bonace (by phone) and Town Council Representative Susan Loeb. Absent were: Thomas Dodd, Joan Solbeck and Barbara Vanecko. September meeting minutes were approved by Larry and seconded by Ausra.

**Shirley Heinz Donation:** Margaret made an excellent presentation at the September TC meeting and the donation was approved (all voted yes). Shirley Heinz approved the donation at their meeting last Thursday. All that remains is for the deeds to be executed and recorded. Our donated lots have now doubled to 43. Great job!

**ERG/GS Workdays:** 5 people have signed up for the Saturday, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> workday at the Vera and Montana location. Ausra will provide coffee and Margaret will bring donuts. 3 people have signed up for the following Friday afternoon workday on Roberts. Water will be provided for that day. The new wood chipper will be moved to the sites and put to use on these workdays. The workdays will be led by Terry and Candice Peterson-Smith. Terry will also follow up with an article for Sand Tracks.

**Stewardship:** We had a long discussion on stewardship of our lots: How do we define stewarding of our lots? How do we actually steward the lots with a very limited budget? How do we involve more of the community? Can we inspire residents to become "lot stewards"? The feeling was that we need to explore and develop a plan with input from ERG and the Environmental Committee. This discussion is to be continued...

Our next meeting will be November 13<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM at the BS Ad building.

Meeting adjourned at 10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ausra Zarins