



**Plan Commission Special Meeting
AGENDA & NOTICE OF MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 6:30 PM
Village Hall
112 Algonquin Road
Barrington Hills, IL 60010**

**To listen to the meeting, dial 508-924-1464.
Remote participation is unavailable.**

Call to Order & Roll Call

Public Comments

1. [Vote] Minutes

- 1.1 [Vote] Minutes - December 14, 2021
[12-14-21_Plan_Commission_Minutes_Special_Meeting.pdf](#)

2. New Business

- 2.1 [Vote] Barrington Hills Country Club Forest Management Plan
[Barrington_Hills_CC_Tree_Preservation_Plan_2022.pdf](#)

Adjournment

NOTICE AS POSTED

Plan Commission Special Meeting Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 18, 2022

Submitted By: Anna Paul

Submitting Department:

Item Type: Vote

Agenda Section: [Vote] Minutes

Subject:

[Vote] Minutes - December 14, 2021

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[12-14-21_Plan_Commission_Minutes_Special_Meeting.pdf](#)

VILLAGE OF BARRINGTON HILLS
Plan Commission Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 14, 2021 - 6:30 PM

The Special Meeting of the Village of Barrington Hills Plan Commission was called to order by Chairman Pamela Cools at 6:30 PM

Members Present:

Pamela Cools, Chairman
Curt Crouse
Christopher Geier
Darrin Peterson
Gillian Stoettner, Secretary
Robin VanCastle, Vice Chair
Matt Vondra

Members Absent:

Kelly Mazeski

Also Present:

Sean Conway, Village Attorney
Anna Paul, Village Administrator

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES September 15, 2021

Chairman Cools asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 15, 2021 meeting as stated. All present said aye. The minutes were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

Lot Consolidation Application: 41 & 45 Hawthorne Lane

Anna Paul stated the Notice was posted on November 17, 2021.

Jon Green, President of Engineering Resource Associates, was present representing the Shah Residence. Plat of resubdivision was submitted. Lot #12 & #13 (10.469 acres combined) are to be consolidated. Including the property within the lake, it is roughly 17.3 acres. This is not intended to be a 'spec' home, but a custom home. There were no comments submitted by notified neighbors. Mr. Green asked for the waiver for the resubdivision, for the Shah property, of Lots #12 & #13. After Board discussion by the commission, there was no other public comment. A motion was made to close the Public Hearing. Vondra motioned, VanCastle seconded. Motion carried.

Chairmen Cools asked for a motion to waive the subdivision requirements (Codes 6-3-7, 6-3-5). VanCastle motioned, Vondra seconded. Motion passed. Chairman Cools asked for a motion to recommend the approval to the Village Board regarding the lot consolidation of lots 41 & 45 Hawthorne Lane. Geier motioned, Stoettner seconded. The motion was approved.

Forest Preserve of Cook County (Horizon Farm)

This property is held under a private conservation easement. Some walking & hiking trails have opened at the north end of the property. Much of it will remain agricultural.

Trustee Conway

No update at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Cools requested a motion to adjourn. Geier motioned, Vondra seconded. All present said aye. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gillian Stoettner
Recording Secretary

DRAFT

Plan Commission Special Meeting Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 18, 2022

Submitted By: Anna Paul

Submitting Department:

Item Type: Vote

Agenda Section: New Business

Subject:

[Vote] Barrington Hills Country Club Forest Management Plan

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[Barrington_Hills_CC_Tree_Preservation_Plan_2022.pdf](#)

Barrington Hills Country Club located at 300 W County Line Rd, Barrington Hills, Il submits the following “tree preservation plan” to Village of Barrington Hills Plan Commission pursuant to section 4-6-3: (B) 2 of the Tree Preservation Ordinance.

“This chapter shall not apply to the removal of woodlands on property owned by a common owner, either singularly, collectively or institutionally, which exceeds one hundred (100) acres of contiguous land in the Village so long as the property is subject to a tree preservation plan acceptable to the Village. Such a plan, which shall have been prepared by or endorsed by a certified arborist or certified forester, may be accepted by the Village's Plan Commission and shall, at a minimum, include the forestry management practices found in subsections 4-6-8(C), table C and (D), table D of this chapter to preserve and protect heritage trees.”

The Club owns 199 Acres of contiguous land in the Village and has prepared this “tree preservation plan” which has been endorsed by Mr. Travis Glay, Certified Arborist (ISA MI-3773a), of Kinnucan Tree Experts. The plan has been in place at the club since November of 2006. The plan was reviewed and updated in 2022 with input from Mr. Glay. The village arborist likewise reviewed the plan and the Club incorporated his comments.

The Club maintains a proactive forest management plan that includes pruning and fertilizing in consultation with its arborist, Kinnucan Tree Experts. A plan is in place to replace non-native species, that have either died, been damaged, or otherwise removed in accordance with the plan.

Barrington Hills Country Club

Tree Preservation Plan

Barrington Hills Country Club is fortunate to possess a diverse forest, ranging from recently introduced smaller examples to specimen hardwoods several centuries in age. The goal of this plan is to provide a comprehensive, systematic framework for the care and maintenance of the existing forest, and to also provide guidelines for the introduction of new plantings of the appropriate species and in the proper locations where they can thrive.

This Plan is created with dual, sometimes competing, purposes in mind: 1) promoting the health of the forest, and 2) maximizing the primary function of the club's property, i.e., the playing of golf.

Background

Prior to the construction of Barrington Hills Country Club, the property upon which the Club now sits primarily consisted of open rolling lands, spotted intermittently with clusters of Burr Oak and Shagbark Hickory trees. Examples are the clusters of Oaks and Hickories surrounding the fifth green and down that fairway, the grove of Oaks and Hickories along the west side of seventeen fairway, and the stand of Oaks between the sixth and second fairways. Open wetlands also existed, such as south of Oak Knoll Road to the west of the twelfth tee, and a large portion of the current sixth fairway. These original conditions are confirmed by review of aerial photographs from the time, as well as from period course photographs in the Club archives.

From review of aerial photos and other Club material, it appears that tree plantings were introduced at several times in the Club's history. It appears that Ash trees were perhaps the first introduction, probably in the 30's and 40's. Examples of these trees can be found in the "triangle" between ten, eleven and twelve, and also in other locations, primarily on the inward nine holes.

Subsequently, it appears that additional trees were introduced in the 50s and 60's, primarily consisting of Silver Maples, Norway Maples and Willows. Some examples of Silver Maples would be the groups on the north side of seven fairway, the west side of the thirteenth fairway, the north side of eighteen fairway, and around the thirteenth tee. Clusters of Norway Maples are found around the tenth and fourteenth tees, to the west of thirteen fairway, and scattered in other spots around the course. Willows are found on six, fifteen and sixteen. These species were generally widely available for minimal cost and were fast growers, qualities prized at the time in responding to the onslaught of Dutch Elm disease that decimated stands of older American Elm trees in the Midwest and elsewhere. These "substitute" trees were planted pervasively throughout the region, and

as is typical with fast growing plants, they are generally soft-wooded, and shallow-rooted. Additionally, non-native, intrusive species have been unintentionally introduced over several decades. These invasive species, such as Buckthorn, Garlic Mustard and Purple Loosestrife, have encroached on the open woodlands and threaten to choke the original ecosystem. In fact, local conservation groups have actively sought to restore the prior ecosystem and remove the invasive non-native growth.

As with many golf courses, the 70's and 80's at BHCC saw introduction of a wide variety of species--hardwoods, softwoods and ornamentals--pursuant to a "tree planting program". The primary goal of this landscaping beautification plan was to create an "arboretum" effect on the grounds, in conflict with the original nature of the property, and the inherent classic design elements of the 1921 Golden Age golf course.

Impact

As all of these trees have matured, unintended consequences of the forest have been:

- 1) Decline in turf quality as the ever-growing canopies cast wider and deeper shadows for longer parts of the day on greens, tees and fairways
- 2) Intrusion of maturing trees on lines of play
- 3) Shallow root systems that retain water, or pose a safety hazard
- 4) Competition with specimen trees threatening their health
- 5) Obscuring views of magnificent specimen trees
- 6) Creating overall visual "clutter" on the course
- 7) Development of tightly branched, low growing ornamental shapes in stark contrast to the original loose-limbed hardwoods on the property
- 8) Competition among newer trees that create decline for all
- 9) Shedding of large amounts of "tree litter" such as seeds, limbs, bark and leaves on prepared turf

Research

Significant research and consultation was conducted in formulating the Plan. The Club's golf course architect, Renaissance Golf Design, was consulted, as was Bradley Klein, the golf course architectural critic for *Golfweek* and design consultant. These experts have visited the course and understand its design fundamentals, and the role of trees on a golf course. In addition, a large number of articles and publications related to tree management on golf courses were reviewed

For example, Bradley Klein has published criteria for evaluating trees that allow one to judge each tree for its impact on the golf course. They are as follows:

1. agronomic impact on turf conditions
2. strategic implications for shot-making and angles
3. aesthetics of views
4. safety considerations

5. health of the tree(s) and strengthening of existing mature tree stock

We believe these criteria are sound, and have considered them fundamental to our Plan.

The Plan

The Plan has three components: 1) management of existing forest, 2) maintenance of the forest, and 3) introduction of new plantings.

Management of Existing Forest

Existing forest shall be evaluated and managed with the following priorities in mind. Trees shall be pruned, removed, or relocated if feasible, according to these factors:

1. **Creating light and air for greens and tees.** The eastern and southern exposures of tees and greens should be kept free of obstruction in order to maximize turf health on these critical areas.
2. **Health of specimen trees.** In many cases, specimen trees have become crowded by rapidly growing introduced trees, competing for sun and air.
3. **Exposing specimen trees.** The property is blessed with many old growth trees that have become hidden from view by subsequent introduction of other trees.
4. **Maintaining lines of play.** Trees have currently intruded (or will intrude as they mature) on intended lines of play, creating unintended lines not in keeping with the design intent of particular holes.
5. **Unveiling/improving views.** Vistas of the course and of individual holes have been compromised as tree plantings have matured.
6. **Creating light and air for fairways and roughs.** Dense regimented lines of trees planted on a north/south line cast large shadows in the morning and for a good part of the day, leaving the turf in many fairways and roughs moist and weak.
7. **Health of non-specimen trees.** Many trees were planted too closely and as they have matured, competition among them has resulted in contorted shapes, weak trees, and dense shade. These groups should be thinned to allow the best trees to thrive and create better aesthetics.
8. **Safety.** Trees that are leaning at precarious angles, are rotting, have crotch splits, have exhibited a tendency to shed limbs, or have shallow roots that create impact threats to golfers, should be removed.

Maintenance of the Forest

It is the duty of existing Club members to ensure that the forest at BHCC remains healthy and verdant for future generations. Critical to the ongoing health of the forest is regularly performed pruning and health evaluation. This Plan proposes a

rotating program of tree pruning such that the entire course is addressed on a rolling three to five-year basis. Funds to this effect should be included in the annual operating budget of the Club to ensure that this program is implemented.

Pruning should remove dead wood and crossed limbs. Trees should be pruned well off the ground (10' to 20') to permit maximum light and air to circulate beneath them to maximize turf health. Canopies should be thinned to maximize aesthetics, and protect the trees in high winds.

In addition to the pruning program, funds should be provided on an annual basis for a consulting Arborist to advise on the health of trees and provide treatment when necessary.

Naturalized woodland areas should remain free of invasive species such as Buckthorn and Garlic Mustard. These plants should be physically removed or killed with appropriate herbicides, at least annually. (Examples of these areas include the grove between two and six, left of two green, and right of six green.)

Encroaching invasives such as Buckthorn and "weed trees" like Boxelder and Elm should be trimmed away from specimen trees on the Club's boundaries in order to ensure the health of those trees.

Introduction of new plantings

Given the magnitude of the existing forest at Barrington Hills in 2006, the opportunities to introduce additional trees are limited. However, the following guidelines dictate the manner in which new tree introductions should take place:

1. **Species.** Native hardwood species are strongly preferred, in keeping with the original nature of the property. Burr Oaks and Shagbark Hickories are preferred. Other deep rooted hardwoods such as Black Walnut, Red Oak, White Oak, Scarlet Oak, and Pin Oak are secondary choices and should be used sparingly as future specimens. The Heritage Tree planting list should be used as a guide.
2. **Conifers/evergreens.** Never on the golf course proper. Possibly where dense screening is desired and deciduous shrubs/trees will not suffice.
3. **Ornamental shrubs or small trees.** Should not be planted on the golf course proper. Limited use for screening purposes is acceptable.
4. **Location.** Location of new plantings should be very carefully considered for their long-term impact. Trees should be spaced to account for their mature height, effect of shadows, and potential competition with adjacent trees. Trees should be located well away from playing areas, and *never* to the south or east of maintained turf areas. New trees should not block views of specimen trees.

5. **Style.** Groves or copses of similar trees should be grouped together. Rows of trees should be avoided. A single future specimen is preferable to a group of secondary trees.
6. **Screening Areas.** A variety of shrubs and small trees should be used if a planted area is being used to screen. These should be planted in a naturalized fashion versus straight lines.
7. **Naturalized Areas.** Small groups of appropriate under-story trees or large shrubs should be considered for these areas, such as Dogwood or Viburnum.
8. **Wetlands.** New plantings should be added to wetlands sparingly, if at all.

