June 28, 2010

Meeting Minutes of the Birchwood Parks and Natural Resources Committee

Members Present: Cynthia Tomlinson, John Lund, Craig Aichele, Kathy Malles

Also Present: Barb Carson, Council Representative

Guest: Steve Dean

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.
May 24, 2010 meeting minutes approved.

Trees:
Steve Dean updated the committee on Birchwood's diseased trees and the process of identifying diseased trees and notification of property owners. Once the Emerald Ash Borer arrives, it will be almost impossible to stop it and will have a similar affect as Dutch Elm Disease. He discussed some of the various treatments being used to prevent and/or treat it.
Steve emphasized the presence of Chestnut Borer which is killing stressed white oaks. It can be better controlled than oak wilt, Dutch Elm, or EAB and doesn't necessarily spread to nearby oaks. The key is to keep the oaks watered since the chestnut borer won't feed on moist trees. Steve will gladly take a look at any trees in question on residents' property and offer advice.
John and Erika Peterson plan to set up a display table of information on EAB and other urban forest concerns at the 4th of July parade.

Benches & Tables: A decision was made on the two replacement benches for Tighe Schmitz Park. Quotes will be obtained prior to purchasing. Boards will be stained for the rest of the concrete base benches, beginning with Wildwood Park.   Kathy will prepare a sample board with colors to choose from.
Barb suggested purchasing Adirondack chairs for Ash Easement to replace the rotted bench that was there.

> *Moved by Cynthia, seconded by Craig, that the Park Committee purchase two Adirondack chairs for Ash Park with pricing to be first obtained and discussed with other committee members before purchase.   Motion passed.*

Miscellaneous:
Council member Jane Harper had requested updated pricing for building a new warming house, and John will provide new figures as necessary.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00.

Submitted by:
Kathy Malles