

Green Space meeting Mon April 7, 2025

Present: Tom Dodd, Sharon Carnes, Jay Fahn, Andre Daugavietis, Joan Solbeck (online), Ellen Hundt, town clerk

-Minutes of November 2024 meeting approved (thanks for your service Ausra!)

-Elections: Tom Dodd chair; Sharon Carnes, vice chair; Andre Daugavietis, secretary

-Tom Dodd reports that Erdolac successfully completed the invasives removal on the Neptune property in late 2024 at a cost of \$1000.

-Committee had initial discussion on how to best utilize the 2025 budget of \$5500. The Town Clerk reported that there is also \$1585 in the Committee's special fund (to be used to assist with donation transactions if donor's require financial assistance). Discussion centered on allocation of funds between stewarding existing properties and acquiring new properties. Decisions will be made later in the year.

-To Do:

*seek guidance on timing of invasives removal (Candice Smith)

*investigate other potential invasives removal vendors (Jay Fahn)

*seek guidance on procedure for purchase of properties (Tom Dodd)

*identify tax sale properties for possible acquisition (Sharon Carnes)

*discuss Digging in the Dunes dates with ERG

-Next Meeting: Monday, May 5, 10am at Town Hall

*Sharon H. Dodd
May 5, 2025*

Green Space minutes May 5, 2025

- Present: Tom Dodd, Sharon Carnes, Jay Fahn, Candace Smith, Joan Solbeck, Andre Daugavietis; Town Clerk Ellen Hundt.
- Candace Smith reported that the invasives removal by Erdelac at the Neptune property went well. They cut the removed plants into pieces and scattered them at the site.
- Tom Dodd will talk to ERG about potentially removing burning bush from GS property adjacent to private property on Pleasant where ERG will be conducting burning bush removal.
- Discussion of potential of acquiring tax sale properties as Green Space. General consensus that Town Council would need to facilitate such acquisitions.
- Contact made with another potential stewardship vendor. Would need specifics of actual properties to request a bid. Candace Smith and Jay Fahn agree to evaluate several GS properties for bid requests.
- Tom Dodd agrees to attempt to locate and contact owners of property at

Ripplewater/Greatwater corner for potential donation to GS.

- Discussion of Digging in the Dunes dates: Friday Sept 19 and Saturday Oct 4 – both 10am to noon.
- General support for Community Garden idea – plan to evaluate GS properties for garden potential (light, water, parking).
- Next meeting: June 2

 6/2/25
SHARON CARNES

Green Space June 2, 2025 minutes

Present: Sharon Carnes, Andre Daugavietis, Jay Fahn, Candice Peterson-Smith (Town Council Representative and Member), Joan Solbeck. As Vice President, Sharon Carnes chaired the meeting.

-Approved May 5, 2025 minutes

Old Business:

-Identify tax sale properties for acquisition: Sharon Carnes reported that each tax sale acquisition would entail about \$1,000 in legal fees and come with a one-year "redemption period," during which the prior owner could re-take the property. Candice Smith reported that Town Council is leery of the messiness of tax sale acquisitions. Discussion of potential to find private parties who might acquire and donate tax sale properties. Current tax sale properties of particular interest to Green Space are on Roberts (adjoining Green Space property on St. Clair) and on Millicent (adjoining Green Space property on Drexwood).

-Target properties for invasive removal: Jay Fahn and Candice Smith surveyed Green Space properties and identified the best prospects for woody invasive removal. These include properties on Drexwood and Pleasant, and across from the Park on Ripplewater. Next steps are to seek bids from Erdolac and Stantec for woody invasive removal work on these properties.

New Business:

-Discussion of reports that a non-resident purchased (at tax sale) property at the northwest corner of East Beverly and St. Clair (which appeared to be within the Shirley Heinze Land Trust "great marsh" holdings) and tore it up by ATV usage. Suggestion that if Green Space notices tax sale properties of potential interest to SHLT, that we bring such properties to their attention.

Green Space Minutes – July 7, 2025 meeting

Present: Sharon Carnes; Candice Smith; Joan Solbeck (online); Jay Fahn, Andre Daugavietis; Ellen Hundt, Town Clerk. Absent: Tom Dodd

-Approved minutes of June 2, 2025 meeting (with one spelling correction)

-Stewardship update: Stantec is too large to perform the work on the small Green Space properties. Erdolac is preparing an estimate three Green Space properties (we need to provide frontage measurements). Blue Heron Ministries is another potential stewardship vendor.

-Finance update (from Town Clerk): non-reverting fund contains \$1585; general reverting fund for 2025 contains \$5500.

-The Town Clerk needs 2026 budget requests by July 14.

-PDF map of Green Space properties: Sharon is working on draft of map; discussion of details.

-Committee Leadership change: Tom Dodd is stepping down as Chair but will remain on Committee. Sharon Carnes elected as Chair; Jay Fahn elected Vice-Chair.

-Adjourn 10:27am

Green Space Minutes – August 4, 2025 meeting

Present: Sharon Carnes; Candice Smith; Joan Solbeck; Jay Fahn, Andre Daugavietis; Ellen Hundt, Town Clerk. Absent: Tom Dodd

-Approved minutes of July 7, 2025 meeting

- Property Frontage Estimate: done and on shared drive (see below).

-Stewardship: Erdolac is willing to do woody invasives removal on the specified Green Space properties (we provide frontage measurements). Erdolac is preparing an estimate.

-Discussion that Green Space does not need a separate donation account for stewardship funds. But need to specify purpose of such funds when getting donations.

- Map of Green Space properties: in progress, draft map reviewed at meeting.

-Corner property across from Park: will draft letter to owner seeking donation to Green Space.

-Adjourn 10:21am

Green Space Minutes Oct 6, 2025, 10AM
Beverly Shores Administration Building
500 S. Broadway Beverly Shores, IN

Present: Sharon Carnes, Candice Smith, Jay Fahn, Andre Daugavietis. Absent: Tom Dodd, Joan Solbeck.

-Approved minutes of August meeting.

-Update on invasives removal: Two properties on Drexwood – Erdolac bid, good candidates. Additional properties with potential are on Leewater/Greatwater, Siesta, Ripplewater. The lots on Wilson and Palmer have topographic difficulties.

- The Committee unanimously voted to authorize expenditure of up to \$5,500 for invasive removal by Erdolac of one or more other contractors that have been discussed on the properties that have been identified on Drexwood, Leewater, Greatwater, Siesta, and Ripplewater or other green space properties.

-The Committee will edit a draft donor request letter for property near Park (previously discussed).

-Discussion of fundraiser events. Idea raised to identify properties and work to be done and then seek donations for that work. Discussion of doing the fundraising outside of summer months, which are already filled with Town fundraisers. Discussion of funding ongoing maintenance activities, including having volunteers do stewardship work.

-Candice Peterson-Smith reported on the joint Digging in the Dunes event. Ten people participated including two new participants.

-The Committee plans to review SHLT stewardship rules for volunteers, and create a list of “stewardship” properties.

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Nov 3, 2025 Green Space Committee Meeting Minutes – Beverly Shores Town Hall

Present: Sharon Carnes, Joan Solbeck, Jay Fahn, Candice Peterson-Smith, Andre Daugavietis and Town Clerk Ellen Hundt. Absent: Tom Dodd.

Meeting called to order at 10:00am

-Committee unanimously approved October meeting minutes.

-Candice Peterson-Smith reported that Lindsay Spalding accepted the invasive removal bid for the Ripplewater property (number 33 on map) across from the Park. Three other properties (including on Drexwood) have accepted bids by Erdolac, with work expected this month.

-Candice Peterson-Smith reported that Town Council does not support the proposed Committee general fundraising efforts to avoid competing with other fundraising efforts such as the Depot. Committee understands that the Council would re-consider fundraising requests if Committee proposes a specific funding idea and timing. Committee agreed to postpone further discussion of fundraising until next year's budget is determined.

-Committee discussed editing and timing the distribution of the draft donation letters, agreeing to avoid explicit mention of tax consequences; some letters to target specific properties (specifically including the corner property near the Park), and some general letters. Discussion among Committee on sending two letters, one around when tax bills go out, to maximize potential impact. Discussion about who to target with the general donation letters, with some members suggesting focusing on people with delinquent taxes on particular lots, while others suggested sending a general reminder to all owners of single lots or potentially unbuildable lots. Committee hopes finalize the edited specific version of the letter for the next meeting. Committee will get the draft general donation letter ready to be sent around the time tax bills go out.

-Committee decided to place an article or advertisement in the Sand Tracks publication for community outreach, suggesting it could be a way to keep the idea of Green Space and donation as an option visible to the community. Committee members will look at the Green Space brochure and other existing materials to help prepare content for the article or advertisement.

-Committee reviewed and updated the Green Space property spreadsheet stewardship records. Discussion of adding the year of stewardship work, for properties such as at Neptune and East Ripplewater (number 33) where stewardship occurred in 2024. Committee also confirmed stewardship activities (including Digging in the Dunes) and corresponding years (2022 and 2023) for lots with frontage on St. Clair, property near Vera and Montana, and on north side of Ripplewater, east of Eaton (number 21).

-Andre Daugavietis provided an update on acquiring the Shirley Heinz Land Trust volunteer agreement template for editing for potential Committee use, noting that the SHLT volunteer contact had left that organization, and had not heard back from a successor.

-Committee voted unanimously to change the Committee meeting schedule to a monthly basis year-round, with winter meetings held only "as needed" – such as to discuss stewardship matters, incoming donations, or other necessary business. The winter meeting dates would be cancelled if not needed, with regular meetings commencing again in April. Candice Peterson-Smith agreed to report this change to Town Council.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40