



**TOWN OF DARIEN
INVASIVE REMEDIATION WORKING GROUP
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
February 21, 2023
7 P.M. VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING**

ATTENDANCE: Mary Louise Morgan, Susan Daly, Laura Mosher, Joanne Gabriel
ABSENT: Jimmy Ma, Nina Miller, Patti Bumgardner
STAFF: Pam Gery, Director of Parks and Recreation

Ms. Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

UPDATE ON THE REMOVAL OF VARIOUS TREES OF HEAVEN.

Ms. Gery stated that her park crew has taken down over twenty Trees of Heaven between Cherry Lawn Park and Weed Beach Park. Ms. Morgan asked about the Tree of Heaven at Pear Tree and whether that tree was removed. Ms. Gery said they have one quote for \$2,800 to take that tree down. She will be getting two other quotes. Ms. Mosher reminded that group that the goal was to take down all of the Trees of Heaven that are identified which so far was 35 throughout the parks.

DISCUSS PROGRESS AND ONGOING WORK AT CHERRY LAWN PARK.

Ms. Gery stated that the park crew is working at Weed Beach because Cherry Lawn Park is much too muddy. When the weather dries up, they will continue their invasive removal work at Cherry Lawn Park.

A lengthy discussion was had about whether or not to lay down wood chips in the areas that where invasives were removed. Ms. Day supports this idea because we do not have the manpower to maintain all the areas we have cleared. Ms. Mosher and Ms. Gabriel agrees with the idea of using wood chips to help suppress the invasives from coming back and also suggested small areas with cardboard.

DISCUSS FUTURE MEETING DATES FOR 2023.

The group discussed regular monthly meetings and agreed on the third Thursday of every month as we move forward. Ms. Morgan and Ms. Gery thanked all the volunteers for participating in this Invasive Remediation Working Group.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Next meeting: Regular meeting March 21, 2023, 7:00 p.m. by way of Virtual Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Gery, Director
Parks and Recreation

DRAFT