

**Village of Shorewood
Community and Business Relations Committee
April 6, 2026**

Call to Order: Chairperson Tr. Couto called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Members Present: Trustees Couto, Ircink and McGovern.

Others present: Village Manager Ewald and Trustee Stokebrand

1. Consider Donation and Friends Group Request for the Shorewood Nature Preserve.

Village Manager Ewald introduced the two applications noting that all grant applications should be submitted to the Village for consideration by the Village Board, including communication plans for project activities. Due to application deadlines, Surfrider will endeavor to submit the applications in advance of submittal, but if not possible, will submit the applications after submission for review and approval. The Village Attorney will be requested to provide guidance on the method of procurement for construction, as improvements are located on Village land and may be subject to statutory bidding requirements.

Carla Avila-Martinez, Surfrider Foundation, lead applicant, outlined the specific request to apply for grants to implement the Nature Preserve Land Maintenance Plan over the next 5 years. Their requests require partnership between the Friends of the Nature Preserve, Village of Shorewood and Marek Landscaping. Grants would be applied for and administered by the Surfrider Foundation. Administrative time for these services would be funded through the grants received. Surfrider is currently evaluating Memorandums of Understanding for project partners and the best way to move forward. They are confident the project would be competitive. It was clarified that this request, as well as grant requests, would be provided to the Committee for review and Village Board for consideration.

Tr. Ircink moved, seconded by Tr. McGovern to recommend the donation/friends request for purposes of submitting future grant applications. Individual grants/projects to be reviewed and approved as funding is secured. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion to adjourn. Tr. McGovern moved, seconded by Tr. Ircink, to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0 at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Ewald
Village Manager