



MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
November 15, 2010

Call to Order by the Chairman

The November 15, 2010 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Lunch Room.

Roll Call and Declaration of a Quorum

Roll call was taken and Chairperson Saunders noted a quorum was present.

PRESENT: Chairperson Saunders; Commissioners Beck, Blomquist, Chiappetta and Halliday; and Ms. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison

GUESTS: Mr. Jerry Burke, Director of Public Works Department
Mr. Ron Ganim, Glenview Resident
Ms. Chris McCooey, League of Women Voters

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Saunders asked for corrections or comments to the October 18, 2010 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting.

Page three, eighth paragraph, seventh line should read, "... issues must be addressed regionally."

Page five, fourth paragraph, fourth line should read, "... may be interested. Mr. Burke and Ms. Flakne will consider how they might make the program an asset rather than a burden and, therefore, worth applying for interns."

Commissioner Blomquist moved to approve the October 18, 2010 Minutes as corrected. Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0.

General Communications

Ms. Linda Masters, member of Northbrook's Environmental Quality Commission, asked Ms. Flakne if the NRC would be interested in partnering with Northbrook to restore the property north of Willow Road owned by Society of the Divine Word Mission. Commissioner Beck thought this request represents an opportunity for regional cooperation which is vital in order to eliminate invasive species.

The NRC should discuss including letters of support from local communities in future grant applications.

Consideration of Cases on the Agenda

None.

Old Business

Developing Business Plan for NRC (Guest Speaker Mr. Jerry Burke)

Commissioner Beck reviewed the Natural Resource Commission's original Vision and Mission Statement and felt its Objectives need to strategically tie to where the NRC is going and what the NRC is doing.

Mr. Burke said Village Staff will be working in the near future to redesign the format of all Glenview's Business Plans but the current document format is used because it conforms to departmental business plans.

Commissioners found it curious there was no funding in the Business Plan and yet it is tied to the budget process. The Business Plan should set out some priorities for grants and spend more meeting time discussing how to come up with additional funding.

Ms. Flakne observed one of the Business Plan's goals is to identify funding opportunities which ties it to the Implementation Plan for *The Plan for Nature*. Remember, Goal #5 identifies capital projects relating to natural resources and Goal #2 is a means to discover opportunities to leverage Village Resources through partnerships and grant funding.

The Commission suggested defining the next capital project out of *The Plan for Nature* that holds the highest priority.

- Is it likely there is available grant funding?
- Is the Village Board budget the only source of funding?
- Look at *The Plan for Nature*—should the Village consider a particular project as a budget item?

Commissioner Blomquist remembered a rubric written by the consultant Applied Ecological Services (AES) where it scored the natural areas. The NRC should have a rubric for setting its priorities to identify benefits for stormwater, wildlife, etc. In order to build on investments that the Village has already paid for, develop a rubric that leverages work done in the Natural Resources Inventory.

Some projects will come to fruition only if they are in the Village Budget. Other projects will be facilitated by a grant opportunity.

At the next River Day Clean Up there should be a rain barrel on display with a sign about this program and the rain garden program. The Village will receive 20 rain barrels per year from MWRD.

The Natural Resources Commission will meet a certain number of times per year. The goal of meeting is not a goal.

Business Plan Goals

Goal #1 Inform and motivate local stakeholders, including residents, land owners and public officials with respect to nature and green infrastructure in the Village, supporting opportunities for protection and restoration.

Add Action Steps:

- Evaluate & Expand Rain Barrel program
- Quantify the Rain Barrel program and Rain Garden program
- Continue Heritage Tree program
- Add language for Tree Preservation Ordinance
- Continue Farmer's Market Green Table.

Goal #2 Research and network in order to discover opportunities to leverage Village resources through partnerships, grant funding and other mechanisms.

Add Action Steps:

- Attend meetings and conference e.g., Chicago Wilderness
- Be involved in, or aware of, other environmental organizations
- Maintain membership in Chicago Wilderness
- Work with businesses or condominium associations who would like to maintain the land bordering their property.

Goal #3 Incorporate natural resources perspective into Village policy and operations where applicable.

Add Action Steps:

- Advise Village Board on environmental matters
- Invite Mr. Joe Kenney, Ms. Janet Spector Bishop and other Village staff to a NRC meeting
- Natural Resources Commission will hear appeals for Tree Preservation Ordinance
- Continue to manage the Tree Preservation Ordinance and related issues
- Keep abreast of Chicago Wilderness' Climate Change Taskforce that tries to predict which tree species will thrive and those species that will not.

Goal #4 Coordinate with regional organizations, particularly those with shared watersheds and sewersheds, to achieve a healthy ecosystem by developing regional solutions and green infrastructure.

Add Action Step:

- Continue to meet with North Shore Environmental Commissions.

Goal #5 Assist in prioritizing and developing capital projects related to natural resources, as well as projects that aid in stormwater management and other public works goals.

Add Action Steps:

- Develop a rubric that leverages Applied Ecological Services work “Technical Report” on Glenview’s Natural Resources Inventory
- Restore parcels of land as corridors and connectors which have no current redeeming value, because of the state they are in, but abuts natural areas and may be developed.

Goal #6 Serve as a forum where ideas and issues relating to natural resources in the Village of Glenview can be discussed.

Add Action Steps:

- Strike “Meet a minimum of 4 times yearly.”
- Follow the Open Meetings Act and plan to meet no less than four times yearly.

Mr. Burke appreciated the Commission’s input and found it constructive. The NRC has an excellent Business Plan in place.

Ms. Flakne said Capital Projects has a set amount of money that has been applied to natural resources. The Village Board has stipulated that any project has to be grant funded.

Summary of Farmer’s Market Green Table (continued from October 18, 2010 NRC mtg.)

The Farmer’s Market had about 2,000 people attend each Saturday. About 45%-65% of the visitors spoke with someone at the Green Table. The general consensus of Guest Speakers is that they would like to come back to the Farmer’s Market Green Table.

Review of Local Environmental Commissioners Meeting October 2 (continued from October 18, 2010 NRC meeting)

Commissioner Halliday was impressed with the work other Commissions are doing and will attend future Environmental Commissioners’ meetings. The date of the next meeting has not been set.

Heritage Tree Program

Another application for the Heritage Tree Program has been received.

Fall River Work Day Review

The Fall River Work Day was windy yet successful. There was much brush cleared and stems were treated. Ms. Lorin Ottlinger, Assistant Director of The Grove, has the Volunteer e-mail list and sends a notice every few months to Volunteers about current events.

Volunteer opportunities can be announced in various venues:

- Heatherfield Newsletter
- Commissioner Chiappetta will contact middle schools and Glenbrook North and Glenbrook South High Schools
- Village e-newsletter and print newsletter
- Quarterly e-mail list of local opportunities for natural-areas volunteers maintained by Glenview Park District
- Scout troops
- Students from the Austin neighborhood.

Chicago Wilderness Congress/Other Meetings Review

319 Grants are being reviewed. Perhaps Ms. Sheila Schultz, MWRD Advisory Committee, could attend a NRC meeting.

Commissioners agreed to hold no meeting in December.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Commissioner Blomquist moved to adjourn. Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Scott
Recording Secretary