



MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
April 19, 2010

Call to Order by the Chairman

The April 19, 2010 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairman Fuller at 7:04 p.m. in the Village Hall Lunch Room.

Roll Call and Declaration of a Quorum

Roll call was taken and Chairman Fuller noted a quorum was present.

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Nelson

GUESTS: Mr. Roy Fickel, Public Works Department
Mr. Ron Ganim, Resident
Mr. Erik Goosmann, Eagle Scout Candidate
Mr. Neil Warshawsky, ReSIdent
Mr. Noah Warshawsky, Eagle Scout Candidate

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Fuller asked for corrections or comments to the March 15, 2010 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting.

Page two, third paragraph, first line should read, "Commissioner Saunders attended ..."

Page four, eighth paragraph, fourth line should read, "... in series of river, ..."

Commissioner Halliday moved to approve the March 15, 2010 Minutes as amended. Commissioner Blomquist seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0.

General Communications

Chairman Fuller and Commissioner Blomquist will continue their efforts to measure six trees for the Heritage Tree Program.

Mr. Erik Goosmann and Mr. Noah Warshawsky were introduced and will lead other volunteers in planting native flowers and grasses in the detention basins.

Consideration of Cases on the Agenda

None.

Old Business

Review of Abt's Earth Day Event

Ms. Robyn Flakne staffed the Natural Resources Commission table to answer questions at the Earth Day event held on April 18 at Abt. Stickers, tattoos, and pencils are very popular handouts for kids.

Review of Gallery Park ESA Status

The Environmentally Significant Area (ESA) nomination of Gallery Park was presented to the Environmental Review Commission (ERC) on April 14, 2010 by Ms. Flakne. After much discussion between the Park District and Chairman Fuller (who spoke as an individual resident) an added parcel of athletic fields, lawn, and Little Bear Garden was added to the staff-recommended nomination. The ERC's recommendation will be presented to the Plan Commission on April 27, 2010. The Plan Commission's recommendation will be forwarded to the Village Board of Trustees.

Chairman Fuller believes that while the original proposal to bestow an ESA designation for the natural areas is highly desirable, it was insufficient to provide the needed protection for the park. The turf grass areas of the park should be included because they are important to the natural areas in two ways:

- They are non-intrusive uses (as opposed to buildings or parking lots) affecting the primary area
- The turf grass areas are important to the scenic view of the park and the lake.

While the Park District agreed to the scenic aspect, it did not see the need for protection of Little Bear Garden and the ball fields. The ERC was concerned about runoff and water quality. The Park District believes there are enough encumbrances on this land that nothing will be built upon it. This land is supposed to come under Park District ownership in 2022; however, they are taking over the management of it earlier. The Park District is reorganizing because acquiring this land represents a significant change in budget and land management.

Chairman Fuller, as an individual Glenview resident, is working on a draft statement for the Plan Commission and welcomes Commissioners' comments. Ms. Flakne will keep Commissioners apprised of important dates regarding this proposal.

Planning for Volunteer Work Days

- April 24, 2010 Earth Day at Air Station Prairie
- May 8, 2010 River Day at Reach 1, Peninsula Park, and Lot 16
- May 15, 2010 Detention Basin Planting Days at Shermer Road, Pfingsten Road, and Lindenwood Lane.
- May 29, 2010 Detention Basin Planting Days at Shermer Road, Pfingsten Road, and Lindenwood Lane.

River Day

Commissioner Saunders is working with President Cummings and her husband, Mr. Rick Cummings, to assess the clean-up behind Sunset Village. The Inspectional Services Department has been working to enforce debris clean-up by Sunset Village.

Chicago Wilderness has donated some river-species bookmarks which can be handed out on River Day. Chicago Wilderness has informed Commissioner Saunders of a website that allows downloading sheets of information suitable for laminating as handouts about amphibians, sedges, and grasses of the North Branch of the West Fork of the Chicago River. Perhaps a consortium of groups could be found who are interested in procuring washable tattoos for handouts.

Detention Basin Naturalization Project

Mr. Erik Goosmann is working on volunteer recruitment and will lead the Boy Scouts in planting at the Lindenwood Lane Detention Basin.

Mr. Noah Warshawsky is working on volunteer recruitment and will lead the Boy Scouts in planting at the Shermer Road Detention Basin.

Commissioner Nelson is working on volunteer recruitment and will lead the Project Earth club with students from Glenbrook South High School at the Pfingsten Road Detention Basin.

The flyer requesting volunteers should have the corrected sentence “Volunteers will plant 15,000 native flowers and grasses in 3 detention basins over 2 days” and show three map illustrations to direct volunteers to each detention basin.

If the plantings must be halted because of inclement weather, a notice will be posted on the Village website if there is enough advance notice.

Commissioners thanked Mr. Warshawsky and Mr. Goosmann for their help.

Update of 2010 Natural Resources Projects

Ms. Flakne reported the downtown river project, south of Glenview Road, is completed.

Reach 1 will be staked and construction fences will be erected after May 8.

Weekly photo documentation has been suggested for the Reach 1 project. It would be interesting to post these photographs online and observe how the project changes over time. The Village has received one bid and will be requesting additional proposals. Also suggested were a project logo, sign, flyer, and sticker.

Commissioner Halliday mentioned Glenview could sponsor a rain barrel painting contest.

New Business

Conservation Congress and Governor's Executive Order

On April 13, Commissioner Beck attended a meeting of the Conservation Congress. Many people downstate are concerned about access for hunting, trails for riding and biking, and the ability to get the next generation involved in ecological issues. A Conservation Congress for high school students is being developed. The Illinois Environmental Education Association and the State Department of Education have done some very good work. A bill has been introduced to the U.S. Congress where it has passed in the House of Representatives and is being considered in the Senate. This bill would require the Board of Education of each state to adopt a policy on environmental literacy. Commissioner Beck will forward to NRC Commissioners the House of Representatives bill number and the Senate bill number in order for Commissioners to write to their Senators to encourage participation in these bills. After a state adopts this policy, grants would become available to organizations doing hands-on work. The Conservation Congress agreed there is a need to put more money into buying natural areas.

It is important to note that local communities are the instigators of protecting the majority of land, except for national parks. All of the local counties have passed one or more bond issues to acquire land in the last ten years, with the exception of Cook County.

Public Works Update (e.g., Recycling Carts, Electronics Collection)

Questions about the recycling carts should be directed to Mr. Matt Morrison, Department of Public Works. Mr. Roy Fickel said the recycling of electronics is a coordinated approach between the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) and the Village of Glenview. The first electronics collection begins on May 4, 2010 at Glenview's Public Works facility and will continue on Tuesdays from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. – noon through October. CFL light bulbs can be recycled at Village Hall or Fire Stations. Long fluorescent bulbs can be recycled at Home Depot. Participation is open to all residents from a SWANCC community.

SWANCC communities will be holding document destruction beginning in Mount Prospect on May 22 followed by Buffalo Grove on June 5. Document Destruction Day in Glenview is on Saturday, June 12 from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the Public Works building, across from the Police Station parking lot. Documents may be put in a box or a bag, staples and paper clips are okay but binders or binder clips are not acceptable. There are several more communities participating in document destruction after Glenview's date.

Glenview's New Recycling Policy includes:

- Distribution of the new recycling and garbage carts will begin toward the end of June
- The two new carts are: a 65 gallon recycler and a 95 gallon garbage
- Residents will try them out for 1-3 months then may request a smaller size
- Multi-family buildings of up to three families have Village recycling opportunities

- Old recycling bins will be picked up by Groot
- The Village could publicize what can go in a recycling bin (i.e., which numbers inside the recycled triangle).

Farmer's Market Green Table

Commissioner Saunders is compiling the Green Table Schedule, which will begin on Saturday, June 25. Chairman Fuller and Commissioner Saunders will be the first participants again this year. Perhaps one Saturday could be devoted to Glenview's recycling policy.

It would be good to promote the remodeling company in Glenview which is certified green.

Outreach Program for the Glenview Park District

Commissioner Beck remarked that children in Glenview have been coming to The Grove for years to learn about cultural history and natural history. The Air Station Prairie and Wagner Farm have been recent additions to the educational curricula. In order to introduce all of these assets to new educators, the Glenview Park District has created a booklet called "School Programs: A Guide for Teachers Grades K-8." Other schools districts will now be encouraged to attend these programs. The 4-H Club at Wagner Farm is one of the largest 4-H Clubs in the state of Illinois.

Adjournment

Commissioner Beck moved to adjourn. Commissioner Blomquist seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Scott
Recording Secretary