



MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
May 17, 2010

Call to Order by the Chairman

The May 17, 2010 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairman Fuller at 7:08 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, Nelson, and Saunders; and Ms. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison

GUESTS: Mr. Matthew Morrison, Public Works Department
Mr. Ron Ganim, Resident

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Fuller asked for corrections or comments to the April 19, 2010 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting.

Page one, under "GUESTS" should read, "Mr. Neil Warshawsky, Resident"

Page four, first paragraph, fifth line down should read, "... U. S. Congress where it has passed in the House of Representatives and is being considered in the Senate ..."

Page four, first paragraph, ninth line down should read, "...write to their Senators to encourage participation ..."

Commissioner Halliday moved to approve the April 19, 2010 Minutes as amended. Commissioner Blomquist seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 5-0.

General Communications

Friends of the Chicago River developed a project called Chicago River Blue which is intended to educate, encourage, and reward developments and redevelopments that take people, wildlife, and clean water into account. Chicago River Blue provides guidelines, ideas, examples, vendors, on-line resources, and annual awards to make sensitive river-edge development accessible to everyone. There are three levels of awards: Blue, Silver and Green Ribbons. One Blue Ribbon and one Silver Ribbon are awarded per year; the number of Green Ribbons awarded varies. Ms. Flakne applied Glenview's West Fork Corridor Habitat Project to this program and proudly announced Glenview will receive the Silver Ribbon.

An introduction and partial bibliography of toxic chemicals in our lives today was written by Commissioner Halliday and copies will be sent to NRC. Commissioner Halliday has recently removed much garlic mustard from Sleepy Hollow Park.

The 175 anniversary of Robert Kennicott's birth will be celebrated at The Grove from June 5-October 3, 2010. On Thursday, June 3 at 7:00 p.m. at Oakton Community College a world renowned forensic anthropologist, Dr. Doug Owsley of the Smithsonian Institution, will present findings from his 2001 autopsy of Kennicott's remains. Additional lectures will be held on June 15, June 22 and July 6 in The Grove's Program Barn. The reason The Grove is a National Historic Landmark is because of Mr. Kennecott's studies.

The piece of land for sale which encompasses almost 35 acres on Milwaukee Avenue and backs up to The Grove boasts 200-300 oak trees.

Commissioner Nelson will continue to attend NRC meetings through the summer. Commissioner Nelson will contact Mr. James Glynn (Science Department) or Mr. Brian Wegley (Principal) of Glenbrook South High School (GBS) with potential candidates for a junior year Student Commissioner beginning in September, 2010.

Consideration of Cases on the Agenda

None.

Old Business

Review of River Day 2010

Twenty-two energetic volunteers from buildOn (a national organization which empowers students by partnering after-school service programs) were bussed in from Chicago's Austin neighborhood and were among those who helped remove 72 fifty-gallon bags of trash and garlic mustard. Commissioners agreed it was a pleasure to work with them and to see their spirit and willingness to lend a hand. Other groups who provided immeasurable help were Boy Scouts, Project Earth, a GBS English class, and friends of Commissioner Blomquist. Contractors from the Reach 1 Project also provided assistance.

Review of first Detention Basin Planting Day

The success of this day exceeded expectations – there were 125 volunteers across the three detention basins. Almost all plants were installed. The volunteers were from GBS, Ismaili mosque, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, and Boy Scouts. Commissioner Blomquist suggested volunteers return to the site in three months and observe the difference made by their help. Two venues which may publicize the success of this day with an article and photographs are the local TRIBUNE on-line site and Make It Better which is both a magazine and a website that writes about people who are doing good work in their community.

Review of North Shore Commissioners Meeting

The next North Shore Commissioners meeting is tentatively set for September 25, 2010. There will soon be a website where meeting participants can share information. One Commissioner suggested creating a five-year maintenance plan for the river area north of Willow Road. Delta Institute has applied for a grant to facilitate the North Shore Commissioners meetings.

One management challenge is the area east of the river between the ball fields in the park and Willow Road where there is a 100-foot wide swale full of teasel and phragmites that sends seed down river. It is unclear who owns the property but invasive species are not being controlled.

All four Lake Michigan states have passed a phosphorous ban in dishwashing detergent.

The NRC was curious as to the difference between synthetic and natural phosphates regarding lawn care application. Commissioner Beck will forward to Commissioners information on phosphorus.

Reach 1 Construction Planning

Contractors are waiting for the river to drop before they are able to stake it.

Recycling Cart and Electronics Recycling Update

Mr. Matthew Morrison said the Village is hosting a cross-shredding document destruction event with SWANCC on June 12 from 9 – 11 a.m. at the Public Works Department, 1333 Shermer Road. Binder clips should be removed from documents but staples and paper clips may remain. All of the paper will be recycled. The Village of Glenview has implemented a scanning program to transfer documents into a digital form so that paper documents will no longer be necessary. The website www.SWANCC.org shows additional document destruction dates, times, and locations.

On May 4 the Village and SWANCC began free recycling of electronics on Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. and Thursdays from 10 a.m. – 12 noon at the Public Works Department through October, 2010. SWANCC has contracted with SSI, which is an EPA certified company, to destroy computers (both PC's and laptops), computer monitors, DVD players, fax machines, mobile telephones, MP3 players, video game consoles, printers, scanners, televisions, etc. Other local sites for electronic recycling may be found on the SWANCC website.

The Refuse and Recycling agreement (which applies only to single-family homes and multi-family properties with fewer than three attached units) will be changing on July 1. Residents will receive a 95-gallon refuse container and a 65-gallon recycling container. The containers will be purchased by the Village on behalf of residents. Smaller containers are available by calling the Resolution Center at 847-657-3030. Groot will recycle the current containers, if possible, but residents need to place their name, address, and telephone number on the containers and mark it "For Disposal."

Collection of refuse and recycling will be limited to once per week. A brochure detailing all refuse and recycling information will be mailed to all of the franchise agreement customers. Information is also available on the Village website and in the Resident Handbook. There is no change in the holiday tree collection. Curbside rates for residents are being reduced. Recycled material should be rinsed off—the cleaner the better. Mr. Morrison will find out what percentage of material left for recycling is actually recycled and how much goes to the landfill.

New Business

Review of League of Women Voters Presentation

Chairman Fuller addressed the League of Women Voters on the Reach 1 Project.

Review of Chicago Wilderness Natural Resources Management Team Meeting

Chairman Fuller attended the Chicago Wilderness Natural Resources Management Team meeting. Illinois passed a law related to prescribed (controlled) burning to relieve individuals of liability if they are a trained leader. There is no word yet regarding the proposal Glenview has submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) for streambank restoration.

Mr. Ron Panzer has done many studies of insect populations in the Chicago Wilderness region for over twenty years. He has identified a suite of remnant-dependant insects which rely on native plants. There are some rare insects that can survive in small places on native species; hence the importance of saving even small remnants of native plants.

Review of North Branch Planning Committee Meeting

At the North Branch Planning Committee meeting, Ms. Flakne learned of the new process for Grant 319 funding. 319 Grants have funded the detention basins, Lot 16 stabilization, Reach 1 stabilization, downtown east bank stabilization, and the green roof on the Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center at Air Station Prairie.

Review of Stormwater Policy

Ms. Flakne expressed concern about the stream bank stabilization south of the spillway, which endures a strong push of water. For two years the stabilization held well but this is no longer the case. V3 has examined it and will report to Ms. Flakne with recommendations.

One comment made suggested demonstrating that Reach 1 is a success with the remainder and other options for flood water in the Village should be examined; perhaps creating a gravity-storage system in Lot 16 where wetlands would be produced and letting the stream run through it. The Village would require funding from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) or Federal money. Glenview is doing more to alleviate stormwater issues than is required by MWRD.

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Friends of the Forest Preserve

Friends of the Forest Preserves sent out a notification stating the Forest Preserve District has released their proposed storm water policy which has caused some alarm because the Forest Preserve has said they are a major land owner. A lot of people want to put a lot of water on Forest Preserve land and state law says only water from natural flow is allowed.

Adjournment

Commissioner Beck moved to adjourn. Commissioner Blomquist seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Scott
Recording Secretary