



MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
September 19, 2011

Call to Order by the Chairman

The September 19, 2011 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:07 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 (arrived late), Blomquist, Chiappetta, Ganim and Halliday; and Ms. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison

GUESTS: Mr. Roy Fickel, Public Works Department
Mr. Joe Boyle, Glenview Resident
Ms. Chris McCooey, League of Women Voters

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Saunders asked for corrections or comments to the July 18, 2011 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting.

Page five, first paragraph, first line should read, "... Eagle Scout, Mr. Ryan Dooner, is ..."

Commissioner Blomquist moved to approve the July 18, 2011 Minutes as corrected. Commissioner Ganim seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0.

General Communications

Commissioners would like to be notified of future meeting dates for the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission.

Chairperson Saunders spoke with Ms. Jennifer Black of the Glenview Public Library about Commissioner Halliday's expertise as an artist. [Commissioner Beck arrived.]

Mr. Jim Hinz, Boy Scout Leader, went down the Chicago River in a kayak from Techny Basin in Glenview to a community south of Glenview and said there is little trash; consequently, a canoe-based river clean-up is not necessary at this time.

Mr. Jerry Burke has stated that if the NRC would like to have activities in the river, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) is the first contact.

Commissioner Beck brought hand-outs announcing The Lake Michigan Forum's "State of Lake Michigan Conference & Great Lakes Beach Association Conference" which will be held September 26-28, 2011 in Michigan City, Indiana.

Ms. Flakne and Mr. Robert Keller, Public Works Department Summer Intern, wrote a paper on green infrastructure that will be published in the March, 2012 issue of *Environmental Practice*, journal of the National Association of Environmental Professionals, DePaul University.

Commissioner Beck will give a talk at the League of Women Voters Annual Meeting of Lake Michigan on October 22 at the Oak Lawn Hilton at 12:00 noon.

Consideration of Cases on the Agenda

None.

Old Business

West Fork Outreach Plan and Event

The Village of Glenview has submitted an application for 319 Grant funding to create a cost-share program with riparian residents who would like to address erosion along their private property adjacent to the West Fork. Based on feedback from the June 29 outreach meeting, there seem to be enough residents who would like to participate in such a program. Ms. Flakne and Mr. Keller developed information sheets about each of the projects the NRC and Village is working on or has completed, to improve water quality in the West Fork. People interested in this information will have access to these documents on site in red boxes (just like at Reach 1), the Glenview Public Library, and on-line.

There could be a bike tour of representative examples of several Village projects throughout town that would be a four or five-mile loop. The tentative route for the bike tour (which could be done as a guided trip or a self-guided trip):

- Begins at the Downtown Stabilization Project along West Fork Green, just south of Glenview Road to
- Shermer Road detention basin to
- Gallery Park and Lake Glenview to
- Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center and permeable pavement parking lot to
- Lot 16 stabilization project and
- Finally the Reach 1 stabilization project and the major river meander, then
- Back to the starting point.

Bike Tour Program

- Commissioner Ganim, and possibly Commissioner Blomquist, will ride the circuit in a pilot test
- Riders could print out a pass book, put a sticker on each visited site, and collect a small prize when all sites have been seen
- A guided tour could take place on October 22 or 29
- Contact the Library to set up a watershed lateral file
- Cable TV may want to film the bike tour
- Glenview Cycle could participate or support the tour in some manner
- Other West Fork communities may want to get involved
- Active Transportation Alliance is a good resource
- Publicize tour on Village website, e-Glenview, Glenview Cycle, and REI
- Have another day scheduled in case of inclement weather
- Waivers should be available
- Commissioner Ganim will contact Village Attorney, Mr. Eric Patt, regarding liability
- Commissioners Halliday and Ganim should give input as to the route.

Ms. Flakne would like Commissioners' feedback on the Draft Information Sheets and Bike Route for West Fork by Monday, September 26.

Other Outreach Ideas

Ms. Jennifer Black, at the Glenview Public Library, is working on Earth Day and may contact Commissioner Halliday regarding Ms. Libby Hill, who wrote, "The Chicago River: A Natural and Unnatural History."

Chairperson Saunders would like to meet with a few riparian residents in their backyards and learn their concerns.

The NRC would like to see materials that Friends of the Chicago River has for riparian property owners.

A bus tour for riparian residents to give them ideas for riverbank erosion control could visit:

- Streambank stabilizations Glenview has completed
- Work sites where the Park District will remove buckthorn, install a porous pavement path, and establish some rain gardens at Judy Beck Park
- Gompers Park at Foster and Pulaski in Chicago
- Eugene Field Park where a large river restoration project is in progress.

Review of Events:

Fall Work Day (Glenview's River Day)

Much progress was made removing buckthorn and picking up trash. Next year Work Day before-and-after photographs could be taken and submitted to local papers. The Alliance for Great Lakes, which sponsors Beach Clean-Up Day, keeps track of refuse such as how many cans, plastic bags, etc. were removed.

Farmer's Market Green Table

The prevailing feeling is that props will support the sustainability topics being publicized and perhaps draw more attention. The Farmer's Market and the Green Table will continue until October 8.

Metra Parking Lot Concrete Pour

On the south side of Compass Drive across from the Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center is the first federally funded permeable pavement parking lot of large scale in Illinois. Engineers from many other communities attended the initial production. The Natural Resources Commissioners are grateful to the Village for being an advocate of this demonstration.

Review of Meetings

CONSEC

Commissioners Beck and Halliday heard Ms. Debra Shore speak at the Council of North Suburban Environment Commissions (CONSEC) meeting held at the Chicago Botanic Garden on August 27. Representatives from two or three of the CONSEC communities said their villages will be reducing their green efforts somewhat. The next CONSEC meeting will be held Saturday, November 5 at 9:00 a.m. at the Chicago Botanic Garden. Chairperson Saunders will ask Ms. Beth Dunn if other villages submitted inventories of their environmental initiatives and activities and for a copy of the August meeting's minutes.

North Branch Planning Committee

The North Branch Planning Committee (NBPC) is driven by the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission. The NBPC held its quarterly meeting in August where Ms. Flakne gave a presentation on Glenview's residential Rain Garden Program. There have been 28 rain gardens installed under the program and Village interns surveyed participants about the program, receiving 20 responses. All responses were very positive. The Village of Bannockburn created a Rain Garden Program modeled on Glenview's program; the primary difference being Bannockburn will reimburse residents \$2,500 compared to Glenview's reimbursement of \$1,000.

Another speaker was from the Liberty Prairie Conservancy which is a non-profit organization that preserves open space and restores natural areas in Lake County. They are working on putting together a state nature preserve owned by a homeowner's association group. This property is very high quality open space near the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the Chicago River. Minutes –

Commonwealth Edison is contributing funds to buy more acreage to expand the size of the nature preserve.

Another talk was about Conservation At Home which is sponsored by the Conservation Fund. It is a Lake County resident outreach program that allows residents to get their property certified as participating in Conservation At Home and meet certain practices.

Planning for October 1 Planting Day

On October 1, beginning at 10:00 a.m., an Eagle Scout candidate and his volunteers will be planting at the Metra parking lot on Compass and Lehigh Roads. All volunteers are welcome.

Waukegan Road Rain Garden

The Waukegan Road rain garden was scheduled to be completed in 2011 but the project has been suspended for budgetary reasons.

Summer Internship Summary

Ms. Flakne distributed a list of the interns' responsibilities that included going door-to-door to survey rain garden participants, and compiling the information on the Fact Sheets.

Business Plan Review

Chairperson Saunders proposed Commissioners review the NRC Business Plan and decide if there should be changes, ways to act upon it, decide if the NRC is complying with its suggestions and discuss at the next NRC meeting.

Chicago River Day Strategy Meeting September 29, 6 p.m., 1000 North Branch Street, Chicago

The date for next year's River Clean-Up Day is May 12, 2012.

Outreach

Chairperson Saunders will contact some business owners on Ravine Way to ask if they will allow some employees to volunteer their time to help in the river clean-up.

New Business

The next Natural Resources Commission meeting is on November 21, 2011.

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Adjournment

Commissioner Blomquist moved to adjourn. Commissioner Chiappetta seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Scott
Recording Secretary