



MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
January 16, 2012

Call to Order by the Chairman

The January 16, 2012 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:05 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, Ganim and Halliday; and Ms. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison

ABSENT: Commissioner Chiappetta

GUESTS: Mr. Roy Fickel, Superintendent of Public Works Department
Mr. Drew Mayes, Senior Civil Engineer, Capital Projects Department
Mr. Joe Boyle, Glenview Resident
Ms. Jodi Carlson, Intern, Public Works Department
Ms. Chris McCooey, League of Women Voters

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Saunders asked for corrections or comments to the November 21, 2011 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting.

Page four, Goal No. 4, second line should read, "... Chicago Botanic Garden."

Page five, bullet points listed at top of page:

Second bullet: "Glenview's Cost Share Programs:"

Fourth bullet: "Meeting with Mr. Tom Ganfield, Baxter & Woodman, to learn residents'..."

Sixth bullet: "Follow up tours to show ...".

Eighth bullet: Information sheets and bike route to be put on the Village website ..."

Ninth bullet: "Another bike tour in the Spring, 2012."

Page six, bullet points in first paragraph:

Second bullet: "It is important for tour participants to sign waivers."

Third bullet: second sentence should be deleted

Page seven, bullet points in second paragraph:

Fourth bullet, second line "... entity which receives materials ..."

Sixth bullet: "Wilmette is investigating electricity pricing."

Commissioner Blomquist moved to approve the November 21, 2012 Minutes as amended. Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 5-0.

General Communications

Commissioner Halliday informed the NRC of the article about Mr. Fred Gullen published in the January 11, 2012 GLENVIEW LANTERN.

Commissioner Halliday added that Ms. Bernice Benedict Popelka and Ms. Evelyn Pease Tyner will receive an award at the Chicago Wilderness awards dinner held at the Brookfield Zoo on March 10. Commissioner Beck and Ms. Flakne confirmed that the Glenview Park District and the Village of Glenview will also receive an award at that event.

The Glenview Public Library will hold an exhibit of Commissioner Halliday's art work from March 1 – April 29, with a Gallery Talk on April 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Robyn Flakne introduced Ms. Jodi Carlson, Public Works Department Intern through May 4, 2012. Ms. Carlson will work with new software called TreeKeeper Online.

Dr. Bethany Bradley, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Conservation, University of Massachusetts, Amherst will give a talk "Plant Invasions and Global Change" at the Chicago Botanic Garden, Plant Science Seminar Room on January 19 from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

A reminder: the Council of North Suburban Environment Commissions (CONSEC) meetings will be held on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. at the Chicago Botanic Garden. Scheduled meetings are: February 4, May 5, August 25, and November 3 and all Natural Resources Commissioners are welcome.

Consideration of Cases on the Agenda

None.

New Business

MWRD North Branch Chicago River Watershed Plan Update (Guest Speaker) Mr. Drew Mayes)

Mr. Drew Mayes is a Civil Engineer in the Capital Projects Department whose major focus is stormwater. He provided an update of MWRD's progress for regional flood reduction projects. In March, 2011 the MWRD Board approved the North Branch of the Chicago River Watershed Plan.

The project called WFO6 has a strong benefit cost ratio, with direct benefits to Glenview, whose concept is an expansion of the reservoir at Northbrook into a golf course. MWRD has hired an engineering consultant to perform the preliminary work. Part of the original study showed that the West Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River needs more storage to relieve the impact of

flooding. This project would create another 1,000 acre-feet of storage which would be about the same size as the Techny Reservoir in Glenview. The Village of Northbrook and the Northbrook Park District have publicly opposed this project because it would remove the public golf course and therefore, eliminate a source of revenue for the Park District. MWRD is continuing to look for open space along the river such as Lot 16. Commissioner Blomquist reminded Commissioners that a wetland performs more services than a detention basin. The NRC will be informed as the analysis continues. Commissioner Beck mentioned there is not a stormwater watershed discussion among neighboring communities; discussions take place within each community.

Mr. Mayes said about sixty percent of Glenview was built without stormwater detention. How the reservoirs function and whether they are being used to their capacity will be reviewed. The Baxter property is one-half of the size of Lot 16 and is on a higher elevation. MWRD is aware that Lot 16 is an open space Village parcel but will continue to examine the option of expanding in Northbrook.

The NRC would like to take a leading role in:

- Ways to work with Northbrook
- How to incorporate more green infrastructure throughout the watershed
- Providing guidance for how to quantify benefits
- How to publicize benefits
- How to use opportunities even if they are small.

The NRC appreciates its relationship with Village staff and is grateful for an update on this project. The NRC hopes that as the discussion moves forward staff will keep in mind:

- Green infrastructure
- Opportunities for projects of all different kinds and sizes
- Providing ecological benefits.

The MWRD plan, MS14, is an alternative project designation.

Old Business

Event and Communications Planning:

2012 Chicago River Day May 12

Chairperson Saunders is unsure if she is able to be Site Captain for this year's Chicago River Day on May 12. Friends of the Chicago River is planning a major push of activities leading up to celebrating its twentieth anniversary of Chicago River Day. Earth Day will be on April 22.

EAB-Related Communications

The Emerald Ash Borer Workshops are not well attended. Perhaps the EAB video should be edited or the PowerPoint presentation should be posted online in lieu of the entire video. Ms.

Lynne Stiefel, Communications Director, will attend the NRC March meeting. Commissioner Blomquist suggested placing a series of photographs in local papers to educate residents. By the time advanced signs and symptoms appear the tree must be cut down. Text with the photos could explain there are people in Glenview who are trying to save trees and this may prompt others to do the same.

There is a great value to having trees. Glenview is has been a Tree City USA for many years and is trying to save ash trees but what can a homeowner do? Invest some time and money in your ash trees and they may be saved. There are more ash trees on private property than on public land. The Village may repeat the EAB campaign with a flyer and perhaps a Workshop with help from the Park District. Planting a diverse range of trees is best. The Village website could highlight a link to EAB content.

Continued West Fork Events

The pilot bike tour was successful. Perhaps Ms. Stiefel could help the NRC plan another bike tour and attract more participants. Information sheets about sites that can be visited on a self-guided bike tour are available on the Public Works Department home page on the Village website. The bike route map has yet to be placed on-line. Those who complete the self-guided bike tour will receive a rain gauge, compliments of the Village. At the March meeting a date will be set for a bike tour.

NRC Report to the Village Board

The NRC will talk with Ms. Stiefel about the how the NRC will report to the Village Board around Arbor Day (April 27) or Earth Day (April 22).

Arbor Day, April 27, 2012

Ms. Flakne and Mr. Fickel will talk with Ms. Stiefel before the March NRC meeting about writing a press release for the media which can be tied into the Village Board's Arbor Day Proclamation during its second meeting in April. Ms. Flakne and Mr. Fickel will check with President Cummings to determine if she has a preferred way to celebrate Arbor Day.

Business Plan

The current Natural Resources Commission Business Plan will be called Natural Resources Commission Business Plan 2011. A new plan will be created called Natural Resources Commission Business Plan 2012. Chairperson Saunders would like the completion dates filled in order to prepare a calendar for planning the current year. For example, organizing a rain garden walk under Goal #2 would be a good idea. The e-mail addresses of Homeowner Associations (HOA) within the Village are not up-to-date, consequently, contacting them for workshops etc. is problematical.

Chairperson Saunders and Commissioner Ganim will work together to expand the Business Plan to include outreach events.

A compost ordinance proposal that had been discussed by the Development Department will be postponed and not discussed with the Trustees at this time. It would be beneficial to have Ms. Mary Bak attend a NRC meeting to discuss NRC's review of Village ordinances such as the composting ordinance.

Grant Applications

Ms. Flakne reported the Village has made grant applications for: EAB, Illinois Green Infrastructure, and 319 grants. Ms. Flakne is in the process of constructing a \$40,000-\$60,000 grant application due January 23, 2012 for the EPA's Urban Water Small Grants program for education, outreach training, or design. Ms. Flakne called Friends of the Chicago River and inquired what grants they applied for and if Glenview could partner with them in a grant application.

Outreach

- The fifth annual Hearts of Glenview will take place on February 6.
- The Farmer's Market will start the third week of June.
- The Chicago Wilderness Congress will take place on November 15.
- When Commissioners attend meetings such as Rotary or Kiwanis, they should remind the participants of upcoming Village events.
- Ms. Stiefel could provide additional ways to promote outreach for nature.

Adjournment

Commissioner Beck moved to adjourn. Commissioner Ganim seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Scott
Recording Secretary