



**MINUTES**  
**GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**November 19, 2012**

**Call to Order by the Chairman**

The November 19, 2012 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:01 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, Chiappetta, Ganim, and Halliday; and Ms. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison

ABSENT: Commissioner Blomquist

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Saunders asked for corrections or comments to the October 1, 2012 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting.

Page four, second paragraph, last line should read, "... November 15, at ..."

Page four, third paragraph, sentence should read, "... Chairperson Saunders' home ..."

Page five, fifth paragraph, first sentence should read, "... meeting sponsored by CMAP for designing bicycle safety."

Page five, sixth paragraph, first sentence should read, "... Illinois Coastal Zone ..."

Commissioner Beck moved to approve the October 1, 2012 Minutes as amended. Commissioner Chiappetta seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0.

**General Communications**

Chairperson Saunders will send to Commissioners an e-mail of a Village of Evanston newsletter on Sustainability News and Events.

The U.S. Forest Service, Morton Arboretum, and Chicago Wilderness will sponsor a meeting at the Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center on November 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. about our regional tree infrastructure.

Friends of the Chicago River will hold the next River Day on Saturday, May 11, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. - Noon.

Next Spring the NRC should implement some marketing about rain gardens.

### **Consideration of Cases on the Agenda**

None.

### **Old Business**

#### **• Report on Recent Meetings and Events**

##### **◦ Lake Co. SMC North Branch Watershed Planning Committee, November 14**

Ms. Flakne attended the meeting and was told the Village of Glenview will learn the status of its two grant proposals next Spring. One of the grants applied for is a sub-grant where the Village would assist residents along the West Fork streambank, and the other is for a detention basin retrofit. There was discussion of how to reduce the use of road salt in the watershed. Mr. Roy Fickel added that over the past year the Village modified eight trucks to use less salt by adding non-chloride pre-treatments.

##### **◦ Council of North Suburban Environment Commissions (CONSEC) August 25**

Commissioners Halliday and Ganim attended the CONSEC meeting where Mr. Jack Darin, Director of Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter, was the Speaker on topics including:

- Sierra Club's focus is global warming and programs like Cool Cities
- Sustainable funding for Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
- Plastic bag recycling
- Renewable energy standard tune-up
- Legislation and regulations developed for fracking.

Commissioners from local communities reported their respective Village interests:

#### Glencoe

- Wants to develop a Plan for Nature
- Did not accept energy aggregation using 100 percent renewable sources.

#### Wilmette

- Rewriting electric codes.

Winnetka

- Stormwater problems
- Working with Park District on a geothermal wells project in the Skokie Lagoons
- Beginning a ten foot wide bike and pedestrian path in a two block area as part of a larger plan
- Creating an inventory of public trees
- Considering adding a stormwater cost onto residents' water bills.

The Botanic Garden is having an Open House for the Family Holiday Celebration called Wonderland Express on Saturday, December 1 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The 2013 CONSEC meetings are scheduled for: February 2, May 4, September 7, and November 16 at the Chicago Botanic Garden.

◦ **Chicago Wilderness Congress, November 15**

Over 600 people attended and the sessions were excellent. Mr. Ders Anderson, Greenways Director, Openlands, gave an interesting talk on controlling erosion with the root ball of a tree, along with its trunk, which is anchored into the side of the riverbank.

• **Upcoming Meeting/Event: Mr. Daniel Biss Environmental Fair, December 13**

Thursday, December 13, State Senator-elect, Daniel Biss will host an Environmental Fair, the theme of which is "Quick Tips on Reducing Your Footprint." It will feature several local and governmental sustainability experts and authorities, including Mary Allen, the Recycling and Education Director at Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, and Debra Shore, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner. Local, environmentally-minded organizations will also be available to talk about composting, where to dispose of electronics and light bulbs that cannot go into landfills, transportation, and solar panels for your home. The Talking Farm, which operates the Howard Street Farm in Skokie, will also attend to talk about maintaining winter herb and vegetable windowsill gardens and to give out cool weather seeds. Commissioners are welcome to volunteer.

The next NRC meeting is January 21, 2013.

• **Median Replanting 2012**

The median replanting project on Chestnut Road east of Patriot Boulevard is completed.

• **Sign Design Project with GBS Project Earth**

Ms. Flakne reported that the Village has a small sub-portion of a Friends of the Chicago River grant to prepare educational outreach regarding the Chicago River. The Village will work with Glenbrook South High School's Project Earth Club to have students create 11 different designs for up to 15 signs which will be placed in green infrastructure areas such as the permeable pavement parking lot. Perhaps there will be a Quick Response (QR) Code on the signs for more detail.

• **NRC Presentation to Village Board of Trustees**

In April or May, 2013 the NRC would like to make a presentation to the Board of Trustees to bring them up-to-date on what the NRC is working on such as:

- Encouraging and engaging bicycle riders
- Tree inventory
- Green infrastructure regional mission.

Chairperson Saunders will contact the Village President to determine the best time for the Board of Trustees.

This Commission should keep a list of topics to discuss with Ms. Lynne Stiefel at the March, 2013 NRC meeting.

• **Outreach**

On December 4 Chairperson Saunders will speak at the Glenview Values Project.

Commissioner Beck said the Village of Glenview should be at the forefront of working on green infrastructure. If the Plan for Nature, Stormwater Taskforce, and other programs were repackaged, perhaps the Village Board would recognize the combined group as a Green Infrastructure Plan. The NRC should examine other communities' Green Infrastructure Plans and determine what is missing from Glenview's potential Plan. The next step would be to decide how Glenview fits into other communities' efforts.

If a community plans well, there can be bike paths and open space which can also serve as water detention when a big storm strikes. Perhaps the NRC could talk to the Public Works Department to ascertain its stance on the idea of a Green Infrastructure Plan.

Mr. Jeff Mengler, Senior Project Scientist, Cardno ENTRIX, an international environmental consultancy, spoke about the regional approach to green infrastructure whereby residents are encouraged to contribute information. This data, which is corroborated, is then placed into the GIS software. This Commission should move towards adopting language that is being used in the region and marketing Glenview's assets.

Sustainability is Glenview's goal – green infrastructure is its label, noted Commissioner Beck. Working towards a Green Infrastructure Plan should be added to the next NRC meeting's agenda. Commissioner Beck will research other communities that have a Green Infrastructure Plan so that it can be compared to Glenview's Business Plan and Stormwater Management Plan. Communicating with other communities within Glenview's watershed is vital.

Ms. Flakne added that Lake County Stormwater Management Commission's watershed groups are well organized.

## **New Business**

### **Tree Inventory and Outreach Grant**

Ms. Flakne reported the Tree Inventory and Outreach Grant is a state-funded grant the Village received to complete Glenview's tree inventory. The Davey Tree Expert Company, has almost completed the inventory. The data will be fed into Glenview's new software, Treekeeper.

The other part of the grant is for a public outreach campaign to relay the benefits of trees. An Eagle Scout may take on this project to select a section of trees in the Village and use a variety of tools to calculate the benefits that each tree is providing in terms of stormwater absorption, carbon dioxide absorption, shade, cooling, and heating. Glenview has approximately 22,000 public trees owned by the Village. Chicago and Elgin have used this method to put small price tags on trees which catalog the benefits residents receive from the tree every year. These tags could also have a link to more information online.

A rain garden design has been created for the parcel of land near Waukegan, River, and Dewes Roads and will be bid out in Spring.

The Center for Neighborhood Technology will work with towns, including Wilmette and Glenview, to be a part of their Wetofit program encouraging participation in using green infrastructure for stormwater management.

### **Bike Glenview Meeting, November 19**

Chairperson Saunders and Commissioner Ganim attended a Park District sponsored meeting earlier today. Commissioner Ganim said due to over-crowded parking at The Park Center, the Park District is initiating a Bike Glenview Initiative to enhance biking opportunities. A brochure could be created with a map of Glenview on one side highlighting bike trails. The other side could be a description of interesting bicycle destinations.

Commissioner Beck said IDNR will grant funding into connecting regional bike paths. There may be a bike fair in May or June, 2013 at The Park Center.

A bicycle meeting of enthusiasts could be set up at the Glenview Public Library for people of all ages to discuss recommended bike routes. These routes would be forwarded to Village planners to determine feasibility, then placed on the GIS. Locations of public restrooms, refreshments, and public transportation should also be noted.

The next steps:

- Reserve a meeting room at the Library
- Ask Ms. Lynne Stiefel to prepare a meeting announcement for publication.

Mr. Joe Boyle suggested contacting Mr. Joe Kenney, Capital Projects Department, to make a presentation of an update on the Bicycle Master Plan.

### **Changes to Structure of Glenview Commissions**

The Village President invited Commission Chairmen to an informal meeting on October 13 and explained that the Municipal Code, which governs how Glenview's various Commissions operate, will have some regulations adjustments.

Changes discussed relevant to the NRC:

#### Current Code:

Ex-officio member can be a student in junior high school, high school, or college.

#### Proposed Code:

Ex-officio member can be a student in either high school or college.

#### Current Code:

Ex-officio member's term will remain at two years (not limited to one year).

#### Current Code:

No term limit on a Commission's Chair.

The process to fill Commissioner Blomquist's seat is being discussed.

Commissioners are encouraged to write their concerns to either the Village President or Chairperson Saunders.

The next Natural Resources Commission meeting will be held on January 21, 2013.

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Ganim moved to adjourn. Commissioner Chiappetta seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Scott  
Recording Secretary