



MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
January 21, 2013

Call to Order by the Chairman

The January 21, 2013 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:03 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, Ganim, Halliday and Newman;
and Ms. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison

ABSENT: Commissioners Blomquist and Chiappetta

GUESTS: Mr. Roy Fickel, Superintendent of Public Works Department
Ms. Lynne Stiefel, Communications Director
Mr. Alex Brown, Boy Scout Troop 156
Mr. Kent Brown, Glenview Resident
Mr. Tom Ganfield, Baxter & Woodman

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Saunders asked for corrections or comments to the November 19, 2012 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting.

Page two, delete first sentence.

Page two, last line, "Rewriting zoning code . . . and they are asking for some help particularly with the electric codes."

Page three, first paragraph, third line should read, "Improving bike paths"

Page three, first paragraph, fifth line should read, "... onto residents' water bills."

Page five, second paragraph, second line should read, "... a section of trees ..."

Commissioner Beck moved to approve the November 19, 2012 Minutes as amended. Commissioner Ganim seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0.

General Communications

Glenayre Circles Life is a new magazine which is available in hardcopy and on the internet.

Consideration of Cases on the Agenda

None.

New Business

• New NRC Member, Mr. Chris Newman

Chairman Saunders welcomed Mr. Chris Newman as a Commissioner to the Natural Resources Commission. Mr. Newman works at the Environmental Protection Agency with a focus on recycling, composting, and stormwater management issues.

• West Fork at Heinen's Site Between Glenview Road and Grove Street

Guest: Mr. Tom Ganfield, Baxter & Woodman

The available site is located at the corner of Waukegan Road and Glenview Road (where a Dominick's grocery store used to be). The contract has not been finalized but the Village hopes Heinen's grocery store will obtain that space in downtown Glenview.

As part of the agreement, Heinen's requested the Village remove dead trees along the West Fork behind the grocery store's site. The Public Works Department has cleared that site and seeded it with native vegetation until the Village adopts additional vegetation improvements with recommendations from the NRC. The Village will retain ownership of the river and its immediate environs.

Baxter & Woodman created a concept sketch to help the NRC determine some possibilities for the site.

The NRC has concerns regarding stormwater, among them:

1. How is water stored in the vault under the building and released into the river?

Possible solution: Establish rain gardens and bioswales to catch runoff.

2. How is water directed as it comes off the parking lot?

Possible solution: Establish rain gardens and bioswales to catch runoff.

Commissioners had other questions:

- How will the water be released to the river?
- Will the landscaping in the parking lot help to function as green infrastructure, slowing and retaining storm water?
- Will Heinen's be willing to install a path near the river close to the parking lot?
- Will Heinen's install a curb wide enough for someone to walk along?
- Could Heinen's install a four-foot mesh fence for safety and perhaps to catch trash?

The Heinen's site could be added to Glenview's River Clean-Up Day because there will undoubtedly be plastic bags from the grocery store blowing around the parking lot.

Mr. Ganfield suggested:

- West side native plant management
- Install a wetland plant community closer to the river
- Install wet-mesic prairie-type plants along the bank
- Plant additional native trees
- Stabilize erosion of streambank
- Establish an in-stream habitat structure of riffles, lunkers, etc.
- Explain to Heinen's the plastic bag problem that exists with other retailers and inquire if

Heinen's has a program that encourages customers to bring their own bags to minimize the amount of trash.

Ms. Flakne noted there is opportunity for the Village to propose different practices for discussion. Commissioner Beck added the Village is delighted to have redevelopment in the community in a very visible part of town. The Natural Resources Commission advocates employing some of the many green infrastructure technologies for this development. Upon the project's completion, the NRC would be eager to apply for recognition for this project. The NRC would like this project to be a model of 2013 innovative development in Glenview. Heinen's could market this as a benefit.

It is important how the Village will handle this site's land and water run-off. The NRC would like to offer advice directly, or through Village staff, to the Plan Commission, Village Board, and candidates for Village Board.

Commissioners are requested to respond quickly to Ms. Flakne regarding the Heinen's site plan. Chairperson Saunders will draft a letter to the Plan Commission to express the NRC's concerns about the Heinen's plan including:

- Stormwater runoff
- Detention issues
- Water treatment and release
- Landscape improvements with green infrastructure
- Permeable pavement spots and bioswales
- Public walkway.

Ms. Flakne will apply for grant funding for habitat and water quality improvements near the river.

Old Business

• Bike Glenview (Guest: Ms. Lynne Stiefel)

- A logo has been created
- Events should be scheduled that would promote bicycling
- Park District will hand out stickers to kids
- Glenview Public Library will have some programs on biking
- There will be an event at the Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center
- The Village wants to create a map showing current bike routes and routes to popular destinations
- Notice of activities will begin in April
- Police Department will have a Bike Rodeo in May
- Grant applications are later in the year
- Restroom facilities and bicycle racks will be highlighted on the bike map
- Reverse side of the map will emphasize natural resources
- The Village website explains the green infrastructure bike tour's Passport Program in which the riders visiting all the different sites receive a prize
- Signs could be installed to help promote bicycling
- For future guided bike tour events like the green infrastructure bike tour, sending electronic invitations to participants will also ensure reminders are sent automatically.

The Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center will have a bicycling theme for Earth Day on April 22.

Another green infrastructure bike tour will be held in August or September.

• Review of Business Plan

A suggestion was made to merge the NRC Business Plan with its accomplishments to establish a record.

• NRC Presentation to Village Board (Guest: Ms. Lynne Stiefel)

Chairperson Saunders suggested a short presentation of Natural Resources Commission accomplishments to the Board of Trustees on April 2.

The overview of the presentation will make evident the NRC has (1) a Business Plan, (2) Goals, and (3) History of Accomplishments. The presentation should highlight a few of NRC's achievements which improve residents' quality of life, such as:

- Progress on Reach 1
- Created the Business Plan in 2011
- Assessed the community for natural resources which set up the Village for the ARRA green infrastructure grant from the State of Illinois and the NRC was ready.

- Worked with the Stormwater Task Force
- Received grants that save the Village funds.

• **2013 Schedule (e.g., River Day)**

The NRC will continue to meet on the third Monday of every other month:

- March 18
- May 20
- July 15
- September 16
- November 18

Spring River Day is Saturday, May 11. Fall River Day will be determined at a later date. Perhaps more volunteers will come forward to help lead a larger number of participants for the bike tour, whose date will be determined later.

• **Upcoming Meetings/Events**

- **Wild Things Conference, February 2**

The Wild Things Conference will be held at UIC with a series of concurrent talks.

- **Council of North Suburban Environment Commissions (CONSEC) February 2**

Commissioner Halliday will attend the CONSEC meeting.

• **Outreach**

The Village is working with Glenbrook South High School's Project Earth Club to consider some designs for signs at green infrastructure project locations.

Perhaps a future Outreach project could focus on natural landscaping at Glenview's South Metra Station.

Adjournment

Commissioner Ganim moved to adjourn. Commissioner Halliday seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Scott
Recording Secretary