

**MINUTES**  
**GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**May 20, 2013**

**Call to Order by the Chairman**

The May 20, 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: Commissioner Chiappetta

GUESTS: Mr. Roy Fickel, Superintendent of Public Works Department  
Ms. Cathleen Burrell, Glenview League of Women Voters  
Ms. Jodi Carlson, Ecological Restoration Intern  
Mr. Michael Klatt, Glenview Resident  
Mr. Peter Klatt, Glenview Resident  
Ms. Chris McCooey, Glenview League of Women Voters

**Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Saunders asked for corrections or comments to the March 18, 2013 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting.

Page two, first paragraph, fifth line should read, "... bring significant benefits ..."

Page two, second paragraph, sixth line should read, "... have been found ..."

Page two, fourth paragraph, second line should read, "... Glenview's Green Infrastructure Bike Tour ..."

Page three, last paragraph, second line should read, "... of a bluff. Only approved species of trees may be planted on the slopes."

Page four, second paragraph, should read,

- Is using less salt on roadways
- Has good participation in community gardens
- Appointed a sub-commission to work with the Stormwater Management Commission and want to include green infrastructure."

Page four, fourth paragraph, second line should read, “Is considering to build a large tunnel under Willow Road to shift stormwater to the lake.”

Page five, under New Business, heading should read, “... Illinois Nature Preserve”

Commissioner Halliday moved to approve the March 18, 21, 2013 Minutes as amended. Commissioner Ganim seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0.

### **General Communications**

Commissioner Beck said this is the fiftieth anniversary of the Forest Preserve and the fiftieth anniversary of Openlands.

There was good press coverage for River Day, especially THE GLENVIEW ANNOUNCEMENTS.

There will be a stormwater meeting on June 18 from 7-9 p.m. at St. Augustine’s Church in Wilmette and all are welcome. Speakers include:

- David St.Pierre, Exec. Director Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
- Diane Tecic, Director, Illinois Coastal Management Program
- Amy Walkenbach, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Ryan Wilson, Program Manager, Center for Neighborhood Technology

Commissioner Halliday led a bird walk on the new property at The Grove on May 15. A large amount of buckthorn and brush has been cleared.

Chairperson Saunders swore-in Commissioner Ganim as a member of the Natural Resources Commission. A signed copy will be mailed to Ms. Lisa Goodwin.

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

None.

### **Old Business**

#### **• Bike Glenview Maps**

The NRC created Bike Glenview map is a description of points of interest in the Glenview area and their recommended bicycle routes. The routes are either over the streets or on dedicated bike lanes; however, on major streets the use of sidewalks are indicated. The map shows destinations such as the James Woodworth Prairie and the Techny Basin and illustrates how to get to the main bike trails like the North Branch Trail in the forest preserve.

On the other side of the map is a guide to the 9.5 mile Green Infrastructure Bike Tour which connects many of the interesting green features in Glenview. (The Waukegan Road rain garden

should be added to the map.) If a bike rider completes the entire route, Ms. Flakne will award the rider with a small gift. Copies of this map are available at the Glenview Public Library, the Park District, the Village, and Chamber of Commerce. Maps could also be available at the Farmer's Market Green Table. Another Green Infrastructure Bike Tour could be arranged for the late summer or early fall.

Ms. Nancy Wagner replaced Ms. Barb Cornew at the Active Transportation Alliance.

The Centennial Bike Trail will connect Glenbrook South High School to The Glen along West Lake Street and will be built this year. A new bike lane called Techny Trail Section Four will be constructed next year and will extend from Heatherfield to Willow Road and tie into the basin.

- **Review of Recent Meetings/Events**

- NRC Presentation to Village Board, April 2

Chairperson Saunders gave a presentation to the Village Board of Trustees reviewing NRC accomplishments over the past four years. A suggestion was made that an annual review of NRC accomplishments should be provided to the Trustees.

- Abt Earth Day, April 22

Commissioner Ganim attended an Earth Day Celebration held at Abt Electronics. Much of the focus was on Abt's Recycling Center. Perhaps the NRC could be of assistance to Abt during the planning of next year's Earth Day.

- Arbor Day, April 26

Commissioner Newman attended the Arbor Day celebration held at Glenbrook South High School along with Project Earth Club students. This event was covered by THE JOURNAL.

Commissioner Beck moved that whoever attends and reports on the Council of North Suburban Environment Commissions (CONSEC) meeting present a written copy for inclusion in the Natural Resources Commission Minutes as an attachment. Commissioner Newman seconded the motion. After some discussion Commissioner Beck withdrew the motion.

- Council of North Suburban Environment Commissions (CONSEC)

The Speaker was Mr. Joel Brammeier, president and chief executive officer of the Alliance for the Great Lakes, North America's oldest independent Great Lakes citizens' organization, who spoke about Great Lakes consortiums such as Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Illinois Coastal Management Programs, and Watershed Partnership Chicago to Winthrop Harbor which is focusing on ravine erosion. Mr. Brammeier also spoke about Healthy Water Solutions, a group trying to restore the natural Chicago River watershed divide.

Glencoe

- Passed a Steep Slope Ordinance on May 16.

Lake Forest

- Performing a re-greening because of cutting down 10,000 ash trees
- Concerned with ravines
- Started a public education series on water, energy, and solid waste
- Started the Lake Forest Collaboration for Environmental Leadership consortium.

Wilmette

- Master plan pending
- Creating a sustainability working group
- Co-sponsored successful Go Green Wilmette event

Winnetka

- Stormwater problems
- Has recycling program

Highland Park

- Held a ravine walk

Evanston

- Employs an energy-efficient challenge run by Nicor
- Pilot project with Energy Star
- Is in second year of Utility Aggregation Program and chose 100 percent renewable
- Has a Complete Streets ordinance.

Chicago Botanic Garden

- is extending its North Branch bicycle path to meet the Green Bay trail.
- Preparing a Go Green North Shore event in fall, 2013

- River Day, May 11

There were 50 volunteers from Christian Heritage Academy which brought the total number of volunteers to 80 people. Mr. Daniel Biss, State Senator and Ms. Laura Fine, State Representative, also volunteered along with the Ismaili Girl Scout troop. Some volunteers were aware of River Day because of publicity in the Glenview newsletter. The date of autumn's River Day will be determined at the July NRC meeting.

• **Upcoming Meetings/Events**

- Illinois Tool Works (ITW) World Environment Day, June 5  
Ms. Flakne will attend this event. This year the theme is water.

- Farmer's Market Green Table

Mr. Wayne Rogowski from The Grove will be at the Green Table on October 12. Commissioner Beck will contact the Chicago Wilderness Regional Trees Initiative to see if a representative would like to attend the Green Table. Commissioner Newman will contact parents and/or teachers in District 34 involved in a green group who may enjoy being a part of the Green Table.

- Council of North Suburban Environment Commissions (CONSEC)

The next CONSEC meeting will be held September 7.

- Waukegan Road Rain Garden Planting, May 25

Ms. Flakne said the Waukegan Road rain garden is now under construction and needs some volunteers to help plant on May 25 beginning 10:00 a.m. A temporary sign has been installed explaining that a rain garden is being created and from where the Village received its funding. The permanent sign is being designed with Project Earth club and a designer. Ms. Lynne Stiefel sent out a press release about the rain garden, a copy of which should be directed towards Ms. Laura Fine and Mr. Daniel Biss. The NRC would like to thank Ms. Tina Shaw, Appearance Commission, for choosing such a diverse group of plants. This plot of land is partially a rain garden and partially a native garden working within pre-existing traditional landscaping. This is a good opportunity for a photograph of volunteers to be published in local papers.

- **Signs/Project Earth**

Ms. Flakne reminded Commissioners that four signs are being created with Project Earth and a designer. Commissioners will be able to view the design for the first sign at the July NRC meeting. It has not been determined whether Quick Response (QR) codes will be part of the signs.

- **Tree Tagging**

Several people commented about seeing the approximately 300 tags attached to trees near the downtown Glenview train station. The NRC would like to thank Eagle Scout Mr. Colin Burrowes of Boy Scout Troop 32 and invite him to the July NRC meeting. When the tags are removed from the trees in two weeks, the tags could be brought to the Green Table. If one scans the QR code on the tag, the computer will convert the code to the National Tree Benefit Calculator website where one enters the tree's species and size which will then present the benefits of that particular tree. The NRC would like to see a summary of Mr. Burrowes' report. It would be good to tag trees around the schools.

A notice could be placed in the Go Green Glenview column of the *Village Report* to inform residents how to determine the benefits of their own trees through the National Tree Benefit Calculator.

- **Heinen's Landscaping**

The riverfront along Heinen's property still belongs to the Village which has applied for habitat restoration grant funding to improve water quality and improve vegetation. The building and parking lot will be owned and landscaped by Heinen's. It is the Plan Commission's function to work through the process of development. The Plan Commission is aware that the NRC would like Heinen's to consider green infrastructure solutions in dealing with stormwater.

The Commission discussed the benefits of having an overlook or a deck by the river. It would be a good idea to have a door near Heinen's Deli Department which opens up to a deck where customers could enjoy the view of the river.

Commissioner Newman said with the development of the old fire station there may be an opportunity to bring in that land's developers to talk about green amenities to make the downtown more attractive.

The NRC should revisit its wish list of projects.

- **Outreach**

Chairperson Saunders contacted the Glenview Gardeners Club requesting volunteers for the Waukegan Road Rain Garden Planting on May 25.

## **New Business**

- **NRC Student Member**

Student Commissioner Chiappetta has graduated from Glenbrook South High School and, therefore, will soon be replaced. Chairperson Saunders and Ms. Flakne will contact the GBS principal to select a new Student Commissioner.

- **Invasive Vegetation on Private Property**

The NRC is aware of various Glenview locales on private land that have significant sections covered by invasive species. For instance, near Costco there is a large area of Phragmites which can potentially spread seeds to the Kent Fuller Air Station Prairie Preserve. In order to compel compliance a complaint must be filed with the Village Development Department which sends an inspector to enforce the weed ordinance. Before getting the Village involved it may be better for the NRC to send a letter to several private property owners and explain the detrimental effect invasive species have on natural landscapes and explain what action may control the problem. Commissioner Beck added that the scope of this problem is so large that the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative had aerial photographs taken of where the Phragmites are around the Great Lakes because they are killing the wetlands. Perhaps the Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership (NIIPP), of which Glenview is a member, could write the

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initial letter to different entities that have invasive species and would educate land owners and work closely with the NRC which also is willing to help.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Newman moved to adjourn. Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Scott  
Recording Secretary