

**MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
May 19, 2014**

1. Call to Order by the Chairman

The May 19, 2014 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Lunch Room.

2. 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 Baetz

GUESTS: Ms. Carol Freeman, former Natural Resources Commissioner
Mrs. Erin Newman, Glenview Resident
Miss Patricia Newman, Glenview Student
Mr. Aaron Saef, Boy Scout Troop 32
Mr. David Saef, Glenview Resident
Miss Alyssa Yagelski, Glenview Student
Mrs. Kim Yagelski, Glenview Resident

3. Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Saunders asked for corrections or comments to the March 10, 2014 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting.

Page two, fifth paragraph, second line should read, "... speak about how ..."

Page three, first paragraph, fourth line should read, "... a coordinator and to ..."

Page three, second paragraph, should read,

"Agenda Items for the May 19 NRC Meeting

◦ Scheduling of Other 2014 Work Days and Events

- Late summer/early fall events such as the Bike Tour and Fall River Clean Up
- Recruiting process for the next Natural Resources Student Commissioner."

Commissioner Beck moved to approve the March 10, 2014 Minutes as amended. Commissioner Newman seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0.

4. General Communications

Abigail Derby Lewis, Ph.D., Conservation Ecologist at the Field Museum, has recently moved to Glenview.

Commissioner Halliday spoke with Ms. Beth Dunn, Chicago Botanic Garden, who said no Council of North Suburban Environment Commissions (CONSEC) meetings have been scheduled since December, 2013 because of low attendance. However, the NRC could invite the CONSEC participants to the Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center, for example, to hear a member of the Glenview League of Women Voters give a presentation on stormwater. Ms. Beth Drucker, Coordinator for the Consortium of North Shore Environmental Groups (CONSEG), holds meetings every other month on Tuesdays at the Chicago Botanic Garden.

5. Consideration of Cases on the Agenda

None.

Old Business

• Review of Past Meetings/Events

- Science Fair, District 34, March 8

Miss Patricia Newman and Miss Alyssa Yagelski, third graders at Pleasant Ridge School, explained the basis of their experiment which received the Student Choice Award at the District 34 Science Fair held March 8. Their project was to test the pH level of water with different additives. Miss Rachel Koopersmith was also a member of the winning team but was unable to attend the Natural Resources Commission meeting because of a softball game. Natural Resources Commissioners have been invited to judge the Science Fair again next year. Former Commissioner Rob Blomquist was also a judge.

- Chicago Wilderness Congress, April 3

Many of the Natural Resources Commissioners attended and enjoyed the programs. Commissioner Beck was presented with an award. Ms. Flakne and Commissioner Baetz made presentations that were well received.

- Arbor Day, April 25

Commissioner Newman supervised students of Glenbrook South High School who planted a Washington hawthorn, which joins the previously planted trees of crabapple, white oak, and rivers purple European beech. Ms. Flakne and Mr. Roy Fickel also attended.

- Chicago River Day, May 10

Commissioner Baetz recruited many Glenbrook South High School students to volunteer for Chicago River Day; joining them were students from Glenbrook North High School. Chairperson Saunders thanked Commissioner Newman for promoting the event on Twitter and thanked Ms. Carol Freeman for creating the flyer.

Some suggestions for the next Chicago River Day:

- Use traffic cones to remind drivers that pedestrians are crossing
- Bring hand sanitizer
- Create a poster to illustrate the invasive plants being removed.

• **Farmer’s Market Green Table Policy**

Since its inception the Green Table has been following an informal policy limiting participants to Glenview businesses, organizations, non-profits and government entities which serve Glenview. The Green Table is co-sponsored between the Village of Glenview and the Park District so both entities must be consulted when establishing a policy. Mr. Chuck Balling suggested Green Table prioritization be given to:

1. Glenview residents
2. Non-residents or service providers outside of Glenview
3. Recognized organizations (such as Friends of Wagner Farm) which must have fifty-one percent of their membership composed of residents of Glenview
4. Government entities.

• **Upcoming Meetings/Events**

Farmer’s Market Green Table, Summer 2014

Possible Topics:

Chevrolet’s Volt	Electric Cars
Ms. Sara Kuechler (will provide info sheet)	Aggregation for Electrical Power

Some Wilmette residents asked Commissioner Beck if Glenview would be interested in joining local communities in the Illinois Energy Consortium in regard to aggregation for buying electrical power. Commissioners discussed how to inform residents about green opportunities that Glenview has through the current contract and inspire them to pay more and switch to a more green energy.

Minutes – Natural Resources Commission

◦ Scheduling of Other 2014 Work Days and Events

World Environment Day for ITW

June 12	Commissioner Beck	Waste
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Glenview Street Fair

June 28	Commissioner Beck (all day)	Energy Efficiency in your Home
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Green Infrastructure Bike Tour at 1:30 p.m.

August 17	Commissioner Ganim and Ms. Flakne	Identify rain gardens too.
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The date for Fall River Day will be determined at the next NRC meeting.

• **First Viewing, Business Plan**

Review of the Business Plan is best discussed with Ms. Lynne Stiefel present. It is important to inform the Trustees of the NRC’s current agenda.

A Commissioner suggested a discussion about stormwater and rain gardens stemming from the storm of May 12 which produced torrential rain and raised the river by several feet. While it is important for residents to control stormwater on one's own property, it is equally essential for residents upstream to manage their runoff as well --as a treatment train-- which would be beneficial for all neighborhoods. Would the Village consider writing a letter to residents whose properties have been deemed suitable for a rain garden which would help stormwater retention? Perhaps neighborhood associations could encourage homeowners to participate in the rain garden program as a collective good. What is the current stormwater system designed to do and what are the homeowners' needs right now? Rain barrels would also relieve some rain water issues.

- **Outreach**

Commissioners could consider enlisting a Student Commissioner from high schools other than Glenbrook South.

Ms. Freeman presented ideas about how to raise awareness for environmental issues through photographic resources and graphics:

- Create a quarterly or seasonal flyer (along with an electronic version) for the flyer boxes along the Techny Basin with varied information such as: dogs on a leash, burns, native landscaping, recycling days, and Farmer's Market Green Table.

- Facebook page for nature in Glenview.

- Use of hashtags on Twitter, Flickr and Panoramio to identify places in Glenview where interesting wildlife have been spotted.

- Begin a menu for Eagle Scout projects and Ms. Flakne's summer interns such as measurement of nature's progress and improvement, or "before and after" photographs. Informing the DNR is important for future grant proposals and state and federal budgets.

Ms. Lynne Stiefel should be invited to the July meeting to review the NRC's communication strategy.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Commissioner Newman moved to adjourn. Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Scott
Recording Secretary