

**MINUTES**  
**GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**September 19, 2016**

**1. Call to Order by the Chairperson**

The September 19, 2016 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:03 p.m. in the Rugen Community Room at City Hall.

**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, Halliday, Newman, Ganim and Dr. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison  
ABSENT: Commissioner Daniel Chung  
GUESTS: Roy Fickel, Public Works Superintendent  
Scott Daniels, Glenview resident

**3. Approval of Minutes**

The following changes were made to the July 18, 2016 Minutes:

- Page 1 – Section 4: Change “May of 2016” to “March of 2015.”
- Page 4 - Bike Tour – change the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last sentence to “cancelled at the last minute.”
- On last page, instead of “Mr. Daniels reported...” it should read “Mr. Nassos...”
- The spelling of Mr. Nassos’ name on the guest list will be corrected.

Commissioner Ganim moved to approve the July 18, 2016 minutes as amended. Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried 5-0.

**4. General Communications**

Commissioner Ganim shared an invite he received to the “Friends of the Green Bay Trail Buckthorn BBQ.”

Chairperson Saunders shared information on an upcoming event sponsored by the Prospect Heights NRC. Kurt Dreisilker, Head of Natural Resources at the Morton Arboretum, will be speaking at their library on September 27<sup>th</sup>. He will share examples and insights on how they control invasive woody species and how they evaluate plant collections for invasive species.

Commissioner Newman reported that the bike trail connection of the North Branch trail from Devon to Caldwell will be opening September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Dr. Flakne announced that MWRD is presenting Glenview with an award for sustainable cities to be presented October 7<sup>th</sup> at Maggie Daley Park at 11:00 a.m. The efforts of the NRC since 2011 are being recognized. She will send out the announcement so everyone can respond

directly to the MWRD if they plan to attend. Chairperson Saunders suggested inviting village trustees to also attend along with Lynne Stiefel.

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

None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### *Monarch Proclamation and Communication*

Dr. Flakne reported that many of the ideas discussed at the last meeting have been implemented. The interns assisted with installation of butterfly gardens in the courtyard at Hoffman School with the summer school students. She will reach out to that teacher to determine if any additional support is needed with maintenance.

Abigail Derby-Lewis helped to plant a monarch garden at Westbrook School. The teacher she worked with was very enthusiastic and kept the garden weeded and watered over the summer.

Dr. Flakne reported that the landscaping in front of Village Hall was cleaned up, and they eliminated the invasive plants and planted milkweeds.

Dr. Flakne had a visit from the Field Museum eco-techs who came to observe Glenview's efforts. She showed them Westbrook school, the Riverwalk, Gallery Park, and the Kent Fuller Air Station Prairie, along with photos of Village Hall once it was cleaned up. They were very impressed with the high amount of butterflies seen during the tour.

Dr. Flakne reported that the train station garden continues to be delayed. There is a supply of scouts available, but there have been timing issues. The bids were just opened, and she is hoping the project will be done by next spring. Chairperson Saunders asked if there were any issues with meeting the Proclamation deadline. Dr. Flakne assured the Commission that the NRC has fulfilled enough of the requirements to meet that deadline.

#### *Heritage Tree Update*

Dr. Flakne received a draft from the GIS technicians of mapping of where the trees are located. She will provide a link to all NRC members, noting that it is still under construction. Chairperson Saunders would like to see it announced prior to October 31<sup>st</sup> so it is done during OAKtober. Dr. Flakne noted that about 25% of the trees needed to be updated since the tree is either gone or the original owner has moved. Commissioner Beck would like to see one map with the trees and rain gardens combined.

Dr. Flakne provided information for two trees located at one address which will require measuring. Commissioner Newman volunteered to handle the measuring with Rob Blomquist as he has all the necessary equipment.

### *Comprehensive Plan Update*

Dr. Flakne, along with Commissioners Halliday and Beck, attended the Plan Commission's Comprehensive Plan discussions. Commissioner Beck pointed out a few items to the group that required changing. She expressed concerns about the watershed graphic being included, so they agreed to change it to a different one using arrows. The Plan Commission seemed appreciative of the efforts of the NRC, and Commissioner Beck suggested taking an opportunity to further educate the group with what the NRC is all about.

### **Review of recent meetings/events:**

#### *Forest Preserve Bike Tour – August 21<sup>st</sup>*

Chairman Saunders reported the group rode all the way up to Dundee Road, and that the Friends of the Forest Preserve were very pleased with the ride.

#### *Green Infrastructure Bike Tour – August 28<sup>th</sup>*

Although it wasn't publicized too much, Dr. Flakne felt it went very well. Commissioner Ganim was able to get a few people signed up. Mr. Daniels commented that it was very well done and he enjoyed it. Commissioner Newman commented on the difficulty trying to hear Dr. Flakne speak at the Riverwalk and suggested she stand at a different location. It was also suggested to give out the awards at Techny Basin rather than returning to the starting point. Dr. Flakne thanked those who assisted with the tour.

#### *CONSEG – September 13<sup>th</sup>*

Commissioner Ganim attended since it was about walkability. He reported that much of it was inspired by the Active Transportation Alliance and was leading up to the upcoming *Active by Design* summit on October 4<sup>th</sup>. At the summit they will talk about making a community more walkable and bikeable. An individual who does walking audits to assess how walkable a community is will be present. They will look at land use, connectivity and safety.

Chairperson Saunders spoke with some bikers from the Evanston Bike Club who requested that the location on the bike path from the North Branch Trail east be a top priority. She commended Jeff Brady for his quick response to her request.

### ***Farmers market/green table***

Commissioner Halliday reported that Tim Joyce attended last Saturday with his birdhouses and feeders which drew a crowd. She was able to distribute some information from the NRC.

### **Planning for Upcoming Meetings/Events**

#### *Fall River Clean-Up – October 30<sup>th</sup>*

Dr. Flakne distributed flyers for this event. Commissioners agreed to send it out to the schools, scouts, Park District, train station, library and several other local businesses. Chairperson Saunders will contact Commissioner Chung to assist with recruiting.

### *OAKtober*

Oaks will be given away at the Farmer's Market Green Table on September 24<sup>th</sup>, OAKtober will be the topic there on October 1<sup>st</sup>, and Dr. Flakne will be leading is a Tree Walk at The Grove on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

### *Farmer's Market*

Upcoming attendees include:

- September 24<sup>th</sup> is the MWRD from 9am to noon. They are distributing 18" oak saplings in one-gallon buckets.
- October 1<sup>st</sup> is a rep from the Morton Arboretum and Commissioner Newman presenting about OAKtober.
- October 8<sup>th</sup> will be attended by Commissioner Beck.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### *Glenview Road Downtown Natural Areas*

Dr. Flakne provided an update of what is going on at Glenview Road and the river.

#### *Book and Sign Update*

Author Libby Hill is in the process of updating her book (*The Chicago River: A Natural and Unnatural History*) and wanted to revisit a few places in Glenview that she had written about in the original book. She will be meeting with Dr. Flakne by the Riverwalk to visit a few locations along the West Fork. Dr. Flakne is hoping to get a reproduction of one of the book's graphics, along with a quote from the book, to put on the village sign by the Riverwalk.

- Dr. Flakne will also be meeting with Sarah Hill of OLPH to discuss bio-swales and rain gardens and the maintenance involved with them. Chairperson Saunders suggested getting someone to create an educational video or brochure regarding this topic.

Dr. Flakne shared a design layout of the Riverfront Block preferred concept and requested the NRC's comments about the design. She would like it to be friendlier to visitors and mentioned picnic tables; however, there are vandalism and weather concerns with tables. Another concept being proposed is using large rocks for seating to make it more inviting. She then shared a copy of the 2006 Downtown Revitalization Plan, stating it is more realistic to begin implementation at this time. There was discussion about how to make the design more current and create a gathering place in the downtown. Chairperson Saunders would like to encourage people to walk and create a theme. Commissioner Beck reported she went on the Chaddick tour for downtown Glenview and there were some concerns about the service entrance for OLPH. She proposed a few ideas to use to spiff up that site.

Commissioner Newman reported the new climate change updates from EPA are now available. He provided a summary of the report and agreed to share the link with all members.

Commissioner Beck spoke with Carol Freeman, who would like to have a tall nesting platform for the ospreys she sees in Glenview. This would attract them to nest and rest at Gallery Park. She will obtain additional information before the next meeting. Dr. Flakne noted that Friends of the Chicago River sometimes installs habitat structures using grant funding, but so far has not partnered with Glenview on such projects.

Commissioner Beck talked about the old Village Hall being sold and had concerns about the Lyons School path that goes along the parking lot. Mr. Fickel assured her there were no plans to eliminate it. She also expressed concerns about the plantings and feels the Village needs a plan to pull the green areas together.

## **6. Adjournment**

Commissioner Newman moved to adjourn; Commissioner Ganim seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Eileen Schultz*  
Recording Secretary