

MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
September 17, 2018

1. Call to Order by the Chairperson

The September 17, 2018 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:05 p.m. in the Rugen Community Room at Village 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, Cummings, Halliday, Newman,
Dr. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison

ABSENT: Commissioner Daniels

GUESTS: Ron Ganim, Resident
Pete Klatt, Resident
Mark Kopec, Resident

3. Approval of Minutes

The following changes were made to the July 16, 2018 Minutes:

- First page: Remove the letters "GI" before Minutes

Commissioner Newman moved to approve the July 16, 2018 Minutes as amended. Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried 4-0.

4. General Communications

Chairperson Saunders reported there is a walk at Watersmeet in Northfield to show work completed in the watershed by the Forest Preserve.

Dr. Flakne reported that CMAP has an event October 10th which is a rollout of their "ON TO 2050" plan at Millennium Park. They are requesting advance registration although it is a public event.

The 2019 *Wild Things Conference* is scheduled for Saturday, February 23rd and is an all-day event at the Convention Center in Rosemont. They will offer workshops regarding a variety of natural area-related topics.

Pete Klatt shared concerns relating to the roads that cut through forest preserve areas. He observed a lot of roadkill and would like to facilitate animals moving through the forest preserve area. He explained how four lane roads are difficult for wildlife to cross as opposed to two lanes and suggested placing a green median in middle of the four lane roads. Commissioner Halliday reported that California provides under/over the road construction for animals to cross. Commissioner Beck attended a four-day international conference on this same issue and learned about retrofitting, which is very expensive. Facilitating fish passage can be less expensive, and

includes techniques such as removing dams. It falls on the states and various Departments of Transportation to work on solutions. If there is a particular area of concern, it's helpful to be aware of when construction is being done so retrofitting can be considered at that point. She noted that coyotes have adapted to the environment and many look both ways before crossing. Chairperson Saunders suggested that Mr. Klatt contact the Cook County Forest Preserve Commission with his concerns.

5. Consideration of Cases on the Agenda

None

NEW BUSINESS

- New Commissioner: Scott Daniels was sworn in when Ron Ganim retired from the Commission. Mr. Ganim will continue to be involved as a Glenview resident.

OLD BUSINESS

- *Glenview Environmental Sustainability Award*
Commissioner Newman, Mark Kopec, and Commissioner Daniels have reviewed all five applications received by the September 1st application due date. Dr. Flakne explained the process before the recommendations are passed along to Village staff for final approval prior to going into a Board report. Staff is hoping to present this award at the November 20th Village Board meeting.

Commissioner Newman reported that of the five applications, three are in education and outreach, one in leadership, and one didn't sign the compliance waiver or declare an area for the award. The applications were from a variety of groups, including education, private social organizations, corporate and houses of worship. Commissioner Newman asked about presenting multiple awards in a category. Commissioner Beck felt the level of effort should be considered. It was also noted that some organizations are larger with more resources. Commissioner Newman explained the difference between bronze, silver and gold. The current award is a certificate from the Village board and public recognition. Mr. Kopec offered to also create a digital award.

- *Speaking engagements*
Dr. Flakne met with the Glenview Gardeners in September to discuss Techny Basin. Another gardening club approached her to speak about OAKtober on October 1st and a Park Ridge group has asked her to speak October 23rd at Green Drinks. Park Ridge has a piece of private land to be developed that has numerous oaks. Commissioner Beck suggested referring the group to Open Lands for assistance. The Chamber of Commerce has requested Dr. Flakne and Chairperson Saunders speak at their leadership training in April.
- *Grant opportunities*
Dr. Flakne provided an update on grants. Chairperson Saunders reported CMAP (Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning) has an October 10th event on a long term

plan for the region. Dr. Flakne obtained a grant from their professional planners for Glenview to review the municipal code, which has not yet happened. Chairperson Saunders contacted Jeff Brady who assured her it is still being considered. Commissioner Beck explained CMAP may have limited capacity for the level of sophistication Glenview needs or wants. They are willing to do this because Glenview makes a good example that can be taken to other towns with less staff resources. Commissioner Beck is on the Land Committee for CMAP and noted that the technical assistance grants program has evolved over the years into a more detailed concept. Chairperson Saunders reported that Mr. Brady felt that the NRC was more specific than CMAP was ready to deal with in the negotiations over the last few months. She suggested figuring out what direction Glenview needs to go to be good visionaries on getting this accomplished. Chairperson Saunders will contact Mr. Brady to obtain more information. Dr. Flakne stated she originally applied with CMAP based on the Village's Plan for Nature. She noted there can also be conflicts between the tree ordinance and basic zoning items. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Dr. Flakne reported on the grant application for Village Hall landscaping. She stated that half the planter boxes were re-landscaped in 2016. She is pleased with the outcome and hopes to replicate the design in the grant from the COMED Open Lands Green Region program. The point is to redo Village Hall landscaping and focus on pollinators. The funding will not be used in the remaining planter boxes as a different design focusing on color is planned for them. Instead grant funding will be focused on refurbishing landscaping and providing pollinator habitat at the south end of the parking lot, which is also part of Village Hall landscaping. Commissioner Cummings will lead Boy Scouts to complete the planting.

Additional butterfly plantings associated with the grant project are being done at the train stations. Dr. Flakne will be using volunteers to accomplish this task.

The additional milkweed in the medians has been completed.

- Heritage tree applications
Dr. Flakne provided a status on the applications. There is one over a year old and another without an application that the resident called her about. Mr. Ganim had hoped to complete the one outstanding, but has been having an issue contacting the resident who has the equipment. Chairperson Saunders will assist him with locating and getting the equipment back so someone else can be trained to measure.
- Review of recent meetings/events
 - *Green Infrastructure Bike Tour, July 28*
The weather was cooperative and the tour went well.
 - *Farmer's Market Green Table to date*

Commissioner Halliday was disappointed with this event as she had no materials or signage. The Natural Resources Commission will continue to coordinate with staff at the Farmer's Market to improve operations at future Green Tables.

- Planning for future events
 - OAKtober events
 - **October 1st – Speaking to garden group**
 - **October 6th & 14th - Tree walks at The Grove from 9:30 to 10:30**
 - **October 23rd – Park Ridge Green Drinks**
 - October 21st - Fall River Cleanup (flyers were distributed)
 - Volunteers are needed to assist with planting around Village Hall the afternoon of September 29th.

Other Items

Chairperson Saunders and Commissioner Beck followed up with the mowing issue at Techny Basin. They spoke with Debra Shore, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner, who mentioned the incident at the MWRD board meeting. MWRD staff was notified not to cut areas that shouldn't be mowed. Commissioner Saunders and Commissioner Beck have also approached Northbrook to discuss coordinating maintenance of the two basins with the help of MWRD.

6. Adjournment

Commissioner Newman moved to adjourn; Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Schultz

Recording Secretary