

**MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
September 18, 2014**

1. Call to Order by the Chairman

The September 21, 2014 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Staff 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, Chiappetta, Halliday, and Newman; and Ms. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison

ABSENT: Commissioners Baetz and Ganim

GUEST: Ms. Chris McCooey, League of Women Voters

3. Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Saunders asked for corrections or comments to the July 21, 2014 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting. The following revisions will be made:

Page 2/para 2/3rd line: Insert the word “by” before “the village”

Page 2/para 2/8 lines down: Add “ly” to the word “especial” young people
The last name of the individual who works with Glenview TV is unknown, so it was suggested to just say “a monthly newscast has started.”

Page 2/para 1/Under Meetings & Events: It says “annually the Commission tries to have...”; replace this with “invite the Communications Director to come.”

Page 3/para 2: Comm. Halliday suggested putting quotes around the word “volcano.”
Under Upcoming Events at the end of the paragraph, the sentence about Lynne “offered to put something out there” should just be dropped.

Page 3/para 1: Strike the word “governmental” and leave the word “committee.”

Page 4/para 2/Line 3: Remove the word “for” from where “...she stated...”

Page 5: Remove the entire second paragraph.

Page 5/para 4: Just note what was decided. At the bottom of the page, just strike the sentence about interns and bug removal.

Page 6: Spell out IGIG (Illinois Green Infrastructure Grant).

Page 6: Remove the last bullet completely.

Page 7: Consolidate the discussion about the Business Plan.

Page 7: A new paragraph should be started which states “It was noted that CONSEC, the Council of North Suburban Environment Commissions, is no longer meeting regularly. There is a different group meeting with a similar name but a different membership. That is called Council of North Shore Environment Groups, CONSEG.”

Page 8: At the bottom just say “Commissioner Ganim **expressed his opinion** that the Business Plan is a good summary of why the Commission exists.”

Comm. Newman moved to approve the July 21, 2014 minutes as amended. Comm. Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0.

4. General Communications

Commissioner Beck distributed a flyer about the upcoming Grove Folk Fest on October 5th.

5. Old Business

- *Student Commissioner*
Chairman Saunders introduced the new student commissioner, Jordan Chiappetta, and explained the purpose of having a student commissioner. Ms. Chiappetta offered to put up Folk Fest flyers at the school.
- *Review of past meetings/events*
Bike Tour: Ms. Flakne reported that there was good weather for the bike tour on Sunday, August 17. Managing turnout still needs to be fine-tuned as she had more than the 20 RSVP limit. There were 27 RSVP's, so in anticipation of some no-shows the seven on the wait list were invited onto the tour. Registrants were sent e-mail reminders and asked to contact Ms. Flakne if they couldn't attend, but only a few notified. Twenty-four registrants were expected, and on the day of the ride two joined who did not register. The final number of participants was 23, including the Commissioners. In the future, the maximum number of participants for the registrant list and the waiting list may need to be reevaluated.

Farmers market/Green Table: Comm. Beck recently staffed the Green Table with a new resident of Glenview, Abigail Derby Lewis, who works for the Field Museum and is co-chair of the climate change task force for Chicago Wilderness. The Green Table topic addressed climate change, and this is among the first times that it has been directly discussed at a Village event. Both Ms. Beck and Dr. Derby Lewis were recently appointed to Glenview's Environmental Review Committee. Comm. Newman reported that he handed out light bulbs with the Citizen's Utility Board when he staffed the Green Table. This coming Saturday is Comm. Halliday's turn at the Green Table. The Village included the Green Table on-its list of accomplishments for 2013. Comm. Beck suggested organizing it by the different tasks that need to be done, so anyone can step in if needed. She suggested creating procedures or a summary of how the work is done in a notebook.

- *Upcoming Meetings/Events*
River Clean-Up: The steps needed in November were reviewed. Ms. Flakne requested the flyer from Carol Freeman. Comm. Halliday said she would be happy to assist with phone calls. Chairman Saunders listed who she usually reaches out to and sends flyers to. Comm. Beck suggested having an information sign about invasives and pruning to help people understand it better. Ms. Flakne advised she will probably do some buckthorn cutting. Chairman Saunders asked Dr. Flakne to write up three sentences explaining a little about river clean-up. Chris McCooey said it would be helpful to say what happened last year. Chairman Saunders and Commissioner Newman agreed to work up a script for her to use. Commissioner Newman will also provide information to the school.
- *Pumpkin collection:* Ms. Flakne reported that this is a newly announced program and unfortunately there will not be enough lead time to get all details squared away. The concept was that the Village could have all the leftover Halloween pumpkins disposed of at a composting facility. The IEPA sent out a press release to SWANCC, who sent it to the members. There was brief discussion about alternate ways to compost pumpkins.
- *Summer Intern Program*
Ms. Flakne provided a summary of how the intern program went and distributed a summary of the summer prepared by one of the interns. She reviewed their projects, explaining that they are hired for natural area maintenance and spend a lot of time on urban forestry issues. They worked in all the natural areas that the Village is responsible for. Funding for the interns is still coming from the Glen TIF.
- *Project status*
Ms. Flakne reported that the Village Board approved the Heinen's river trail and naturalization and stabilization of the stream with all parts. The Village has a contractor and just needs to have a kick-off meeting to get it underway. It will start in the fall and finish up in spring with the planting. The Green Infrastructure signs are scheduled to go to the Appearance Commission. Village Planner Jeff Brady will meet her in the field tomorrow to mark out locations. It was noted that the Appearance Commission requires a very detailed application.
- Ms. Flakne reported on grant applications, stating a Clean Water Action Section 319 Watershed Program application has been submitted to do more detention basins, and that she applied for Chi-Cal funding that could be added to the Heinen's river trail project. She noted that Chi-Cal funding could be retroactive as the project can be started prior to the funding being received, but added that it is a long shot to even get that grant.

6. New Business

- *Comprehensive Plan Update:*

Chairman Saunders was invited to a Saturday meeting of all Commission Chairs which was convened by Jeff Brady. She learned that the Glenview Village Comprehensive Plan in place is from 2004 and it's time to do a new one. A campaign video of "We Love Lake Oswego" was shown at that meeting that they really liked. It was an example of something that could encourage stakeholders to learn about the natural areas of the Village. The Comprehensive Plan process will take more than a year, and will be different than the previous one, as it is an update and so will be more of a compressed process. Charrettes will be used as a planning tool but not until October or November of 2015. Every Commission is asked to have a varying number of representatives on the Comprehensive Plan Committee; the Natural Resources Commission will have one representative. Commissioner Beck was asked to represent the Natural Resource Commission, although any member can attend any of those meetings. The Village will need a consultant to run the process. Village Manager Todd Hileman said that green infrastructure is definitely part of the plan.

- *Tree Ordinance Committee Review:*

This committee has met twice since the Natural Resources Commission last met, and its recommendations will now go through review by other Commissions and finally to the Village Board. Chairman Saunders stated that one of the important points reviewed by the Committee is that sometimes numerous trees on a street need to come down within a short time. The Village has a generous program allowing residents to select a tree to replace those removed from the parkway near their home, but the Village doesn't want everyone to pick the same tree. If more than ten trees in a block all need to be replaced, homeowners will first be allowed to state a preference, but there may be times when a homeowner doesn't choose. The Village will then seek input from homeowners associations. If too many of the same species of tree is requested, the Village will work with homeowners and homeowners associations to suggest a diversity of species.

A Valley Lo resident attended and mentioned that Valley Lo had been doing river restoration work. Ms. Flakne tried twice for 319 funding to allocate to homeowners to do stabilization projects, but the funding was not awarded. Valley Lo asked Public Works and engineering staff for advice and suggestions, but Ms. Flakne had not been back to see what success they've had. The Valley Lo resident mentioned that they have done many projects and still have a lot more they want to do.

- *NRC Meeting Schedule*

The next meeting is Monday, November 17th. Comm. Halliday noted she is teaching every Monday in November.

There was discussion about the phragmites coming down at Field's, which is right next to Costco. Ms. Flakne spoke with the landscape company and they delayed removing some of the phragmites, since they say it will be a parking lot anyway. They did then remove a small patch, much less than they were requested to cut. While working with them to require more mowing, they received final approval to begin the parking lot, which cleared much of the area. It may nevertheless be a recurring problem because there is a detention pond that won't be made into a parking lot and is surrounded by phragmites.

Chairman Saunders commented that Lynne Stiefel is eager to tag onto the IDNR Invasive Species Awareness month in May and sent out a cameraman and crew to describe what purple loosestrife, phragmites, buckthorn, and reed canary grass look like and their effects on natural areas.

7. Adjournment

Commissioner Newman moved to adjourn; Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Schultz
Recording Secretary