

**MINUTES**  
**GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**March 16, 2015**

**Final**

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

The March 16, 2015 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 Ganim, Halliday, Newman and Beck;  
Dr. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison, Roy Fickel,  
Public Works Superintendent

ABSENT: Commissioner Chiapetta

GUESTS: Ms. Chris McCooley, League of Women Voters  
Ms. Lynne Stiefel, Village Communications Director  
Mr. Roy Fickel, Superintendent of Public Works

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Saunders asked for corrections or comments to the January 19, 2015 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting. The following revisions will be made:

- Lynne Stiefel's name should be corrected from "Stoefel" to "Stiefel."
- On page 2, under #4, in the 4<sup>th</sup> sentence, change to read "...for such a large area."
- On page 2, halfway down where it states "when they received the grant" should read "received the grant for the five start-up programs."
- On page 2, under General Communications, line 12 – strike the "however" portion and just end it with a period.
- On page 2, last line – eliminate the apostrophe in "Kennicotts."
- On page 3 under "*Wild Things Conference*," replace "they" with "he or she."
- Under Old Business, on page 4, line 6, correct sentence to say "Commissioner Beck...."

Comm. Halliday moved to approve the January 19, 2015 minutes as amended. Comm. Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0.

#### **4. General Communications**

Chairman Saunders reported that Going Green Matters, sponsored by Go Green Wilmette, took place last weekend. Attendance was estimated to be at 1,500, which was a great turnout since the originally planned venue burned down two weeks prior to the event.

- Commission Halliday reported that Morton Arboretum will be hosting a conference on oaks in October.
- Commissioner Beck noted that Oaktober is all part of the regional tree initiative, and she and Dr. Flakne have been attending the meetings. She reported that the regional trees initiative has received federal funding.
- Commissioner Saunders shared an invite for another event at Morton Arboretum on Earth Day Weekend.

Commissioner Beck reported the first meeting for the Circles neighborhood Heritage Tree nominations will be March 25<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Saunders noted that is a neighborhood group wanting to honor their own trees. Commissioner Beck stated that instead of waiting for people to find out about the program, she and John Hedrick are being proactive.

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

None

#### **6. Old Business**

Chairman Saunders reported that the installations of signs designed by high schoolers are completed and look very nice. Ms. Stiefel stated there will be an article about this in the April newsletter.

Chairman Saunders introduced Lynne Stiefel and explained the Commission will be promoting invasive plant month in May. Ms. Stiefel expressed thanks to Chairman Saunders, Commissioner Beck and Dr. Flakne who tried to reach out to larger businesses who have large plots of lands with invasive species. The NRC will have a campaign for invasive plant awareness month with an article in the newsletter, and a presentation at the library featuring Dr. Flakne and Judy Ksiazek from the Park District. Ms. Stiefel asked the Park District if they want an additional workshop, but she hasn't heard back from them yet. Part of this campaign is five short videos that are two to two and a half minutes in length. These can be made available on the website and DVD's can be issued to businesses to educate them about invasives on their properties. Ms. Stiefel showed the Commission the five videos that were prepared for the five species selected by the NRC. These included purple loosestrife, teasel, phragmites, garlic mustard, and buckthorn. The Commission was impressed with the excellent quality of the photos; Ms. Stiefel gave credit to Tim Davidson for putting the videos together. She noted the campaign will be launched in May on the Glenview website. Comm. Beck suggested having a message line letting people know they can eliminate them before they spread out of control. Chairman Saunders commented that this gives background for when the NRC invokes the weed ordinance. Ms. Stiefel stated that copies of the DVD will be in the Community Development office for the landscapers. Comm. Beck suggested creating it in Spanish for the landscapers as well. Ms.

Stiefel said the idea is to get it to the people who hire the landscapers. Chairman Saunders agreed, and Ms. Stiefel asked for suggestions for a better title.

Chairman Saunders shared a flyer regarding landscape alternatives to invasives that she received from Kathy McGlynn, who did a presentation on invasive species recently. Comm. Beck suggested “Invasive Species – Beautiful but Deadly.” Comm. Newman proposed “Beauty Has Its Consequences.” Comm. Beck recommended sending a letter to the DNR since they are the lead agency for Invasive Species Month to let them know Glenview celebrates it. Dr. Flakne reported she has sent Chris Evans everything Glenview is planning. Chairman Saunders asked if there will be anything on “Ask the Village.” Ms. Stiefel is willing to put the information on e-Glenview.

*Bike Glenview* – Ms. Stiefel reported that the Village submitted an application to the League of American Bicyclists to be designated as a bike friendly community. It was a very lengthy application and many people were involved. Although it is just a designation, it is terrific PR for Glenview, and she will keep the group posted when she gets updates.

Ms. Stiefel noted that this is the fourth year for Bike Glenview. This came out of the park district when they were looking for ways for people to bike due to parking issues at Park Center. The park district person who was the lead left so Ms. Stiefel has taken it on. A schedule of events will be in May’s newsletter. Chairman Saunders reported that Friends of the Forest Preserve will do a bike ride. Ms. Stiefel commented that these listed events run from May to after July 4<sup>th</sup>, and that Bike Glenview maps are still available.

Comm. Ganim inquired about bike infrastructure projects. Ms. Stiefel responded that the connection from the Techny Basin area to Northbrook is underway. The Centennial Trail along West Lake Avenue from Glenbrook South to The Glen is almost finished.

Ms. Stiefel received an offer from Anderson Windows to be a way-stop for cyclists and will contact them. She also reported bike racks were just added at the train stations. Chairman Saunders reported there is a private individual putting benches on the Forest Preserve bike trails, and that they will be placed in the North Branch Trail sometime during the summer. Ms. Stiefel reported the Village is in the midst of putting together a community survey and one question asked is about Glenview being a bike friendly community

Chairman Saunders commented about how much she learned about the tree ordinance while going through the revision process. Glenview’s program is generous compared to many other towns. She wanted to know if there is a way to underscore that to the public. If one of the green tables is about trees, she would like a copy of the recent newsletter article about the tree program.

Comm. Ganim asked about the history of the free tree program and how long it has existed. Mr. Fickel stated that it used to be a 50/50 program.

Chairman Saunders noted that trees, recycling and water issues are what people are concerned about. Ms. Stiefel stated that the state law was written that a community has to meet a certain

percentage for electronics recycling and Glenview exceeded it, so it a collection event may not be available. Comm. Ganim asked to be kept informed about any legislative updates on the electronic recycling.

Ms. Stiefel reported that similar limitations are happening with drugs and prescription medications collections. The feds discontinued a national take-back and empowered the pharmacies to take them back, so they will probably go right back in the toilet. Comm. Beck will reach out to her contact at the EPA that used to work with the Reclamation District about this.

Chairman Saunders reported Northbrook is considering a wildlife ordinance. She suggested waiting to see what they do and what the discussion is. Comm. Beck said that Lincoln Park Zoo put a camera on her property which showed “one of everything” – i.e. a wide variety of wildlife uses her yard, illustrating that the river acts as a wildlife corridor.

Chairman Saunders noted that the summer festival event on June 27<sup>th</sup> will be the same day as the start of the Farmer’s Market Green Table. NRC members can help Ms. Stiefel with the summer festival table. Comm. Beck stated that hand-outs for children are needed, since so many of them attend. Ms. Flakne agreed to get tattoos for this purpose.

#### *Meetings & Events:*

Comm. Newman reported the Pleasant Ridge Science Fair recognized 26 students of the 45 registered overall. Each grade had two categories and with a first, second and third place award. Topics covered a wide range, including electricity, gum brands, hand lotion, and teeth whitening.

Chairman Saunders reported that District 34 has a new Communications Director. Comm. Newman agreed to send the new director and Green Committee an electronic copy of the River Day flyer.

*Wild Things Conference* was attended by Dr. Flakne who felt one day isn’t enough to cover all the topics.

#### **Other upcoming events**

Glenview will provide a field trip for the Society for Ecological Restoration conference March 27-29.

Dr. Flakne reported that Arbor Day will most likely be at Pleasant Ridge. Comm. Newman and possibly the Village President will present.

*River Day Clean-Up* – Dr. Flakne distributed the flyer for this event. Chairman Saunders suggested writing a letter to the press informing them of this event.

Chris McCooey inquired about the Village Ordinance regarding invasive plants. Chairman Saunders explained that the Ordinance will be enforced if someone complains. Dr. Flakne advised her to make a complaint to the Village’s Resolution Center, who will forward it to the Development Department. She noted that it is difficult since many people don’t know invasive

species. Comm. Ganim was concerned that the village doesn't take action for such a large noticeable area as that near Costco.

### **7. New Business**

Green Table – An informational sheet and schedules from past Farmer's Market's Green Tables were distributed. The Green Table is sponsored by the Village and the Park District. There was discussion about organizing the Green Table and Chairman Saunders asked all members to take responsibility for a part of it. Chairman Saunders also proposed having a student advocacy group from the elementary and the high school. Comm. Beck suggested doing invasives along with ~~for~~ the Stormwater topic.

Dr. Flakne reported there are two applications for Heritage trees. Kent Fuller and Rob Blomquist will be requested to train volunteers. For the Circles project, Comm. Beck contacted Fred Gullen to see if the scouts might want to help out. Dr. Flakne thought it probably wouldn't be an Eagle Scout project, but it might be a Girl Scout Gold project. Chairman Saunders thought it would be nice to get them done before Arbor Day in April so they could get a certificate.

### **8. Project Updates**

The stabilization project behind Heinen's has been delayed due to weather.

Dr. Flakne reported that she and Jeff Brady are working with CMAP to revise the Local Technical Assistance grant scope and timeline.

### **9. Adjournment**

Commissioner Newman moved to adjourn; Commissioner Ganim seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Eileen Schultz*  
Recording Secretary