

MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
January 19, 2015

1. Call to Order by the Chairman

The January 19, 2014 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Acting Chairman Beck at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Staff Room.

2. Roll Call and Declaration of a Quorum

Roll call was taken and Acting Chairperson Beck noted a quorum was present.

PRESENT: Acting Chairperson/Commissioner Beck, Commissioners Halliday, Newman, Ganim, Dr. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison, Roy Fickel, Public Works Director

ABSENT: Chairperson Saunders, Commissioner Chiappetta

3. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Beck asked for corrections or comments to the November 17, 2014 Minutes of the Natural Resources Commission meeting. The following revisions will be made:

Page 2 - In the last sentence in the paragraph with "Moby Duck," add "into the river" where it states "When an item is released..."

The giant buckthorn was discovered by *Commissioner Halliday* and **not** Commissioner Newman.

Stormwater presentation -
Eliminate the duplicate word "positive"

Next sentence – Replace the word "beautifully" with "...village staff has followed closely."

Instead of "There are some huge..." it should read "There are some large projects that fit together."

On the last section near the bottom where it reads "...they latched onto Lake County ..." was unclear to Comm. Beck. Instead of "waiting around," change it to read "One of Glenview's best practices is that the Natural Resource Manager worked proactively with Lake County to get Clean Water Act Section 319 grants in collaboration with the county."

"Semi adopted" should be in quotes.

Page 4

Under Outreach – Replace “all the things going on” with “...that all environmental opportunities are part of the Commissions outreach.”

When talking about the river walk, use Lynne’s last name (Stiefel) instead of just Lynne.

Page 5

2nd sentence – Replace “Commissioner Beck noticed there are 80 homes in the circle” with “Some may have several prize contestants since it is a fairly wooded area” – (Use “prize contestants” instead of trees)

Comm. Ganim moved to approve the November 17, 2014 minutes as amended. Comm. Newman seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 3-0.

4. General Communications

Commissioner Ganim attended the CONSEG meeting on January 13th. He reported that this group no longer consists of commissioners or government agencies, but all environmental groups, and they do get good attendance. He does not plan to attend any more of these meetings since their discussions do not appear to be topics the NRC would be getting involved with. The discussions are interesting; however, it is now more of an environmental group. They did talk about the Forest Preserve District trying to get volunteers to assist with brush cutting and management due to their lack of staff for such a large area. They are attempting to build partnerships with anyone who is interested and hope to put together organizations to act as the volunteer stewards. One area included as one of their five start-up projects is the Blue Star Memorial Woods near the bike path in Glenview, and they are trying to stimulate some activities. Comm. Beck commented that the Forest Preserve has a centennial plan and new management with some good environmentally sensitive goals. They have different initiatives underway that are very worthwhile and will give people an opportunity to be involved with the Forest Preserve. She commented that Chairman Saunders felt it would have been a good opportunity if they had contacted the NRC when they received the grant for the five start-up programs, and it might be good to publicize. Comm. Beck noted that anybody can go to the CONSEG meeting. Comm. Ganim reported three of the five start-up preserves are in this area in Northbrook, Blue Star Memorial Woods near Glenview and LaBagh in North Mayfair in Chicago, where 150 migratory bird species were seen last year. He provided an email for Josh Coles (josh@friendsoftheforestpreserves) if anyone from the NRC is interested in signing up. The reason he attended the CONSEG meeting was because it seemed they were going to focus on best practices, which he thought would be helpful to the NRC; however, there was not much information regarding those items. It was mainly individuals reporting on what is happening in various communities. Comm. Beck suggested considering this group of volunteers to invite to the Green Table. Comm. Ganim reported their next meeting is March 10th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Botanical Gardens and the topic is “Solar Energy.”

Commissioner Beck noted that March 10, 1836 is Grove Arrival Day, which is the date the Kennicotts arrived in Glenview at the Grove. Comm. Halliday reported that Steve Swanson,

Director of the Grove National Historic Landmark, will pay tribute to Dr. Kennicott and highlight his life's accomplishments. On March 8th there will be a Grove Arrival presentation for children. She described a video that will be shown from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. along with characters in costume.

Commissioner Beck reported a recent potential sighting of a wolf near her home and suggested having an area on the Village website to report any wildlife sightings. Dr. Flakne talked to the Village's animal control officer about doing this, and was informed residents should call her or the Police Department, and that a wolf or coyote would not be shot on sight. If the animal is dead, Public Works should be called. Dr. Flakne will confirm that the website says to contact Animal Control. Comm. Beck suggested including it under "Ask the Village."

5. Consideration of Cases on the Agenda

There were no cases for consideration.

6. Old Business

- **Upcoming Meetings/Events**

District 34 Science Fair: Comm. Newman reported this event is occurring January 24th at Pleasant Ridge. They have six judges and will be meeting at 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning. He is obtaining a final count of the number of participants.

Wild Things Conference: Dr. Flakne reported that Chairman Saunders wanted to remind everyone about this, which is all day Saturday at UIC. January 19th was the last day to register on-line. The goal of this Conference is to reach the volunteer stewards and everyone who has an interest in maintaining natural areas. Sessions are very informative and run concurrently so an attendee needs to select which sessions he or she wants to attend. The Keynote is about returning buffalo to Nachusa Grasslands. The cost is \$40.00 and it presents a very good networking opportunity.

Invasive Species Workshop: Dr. Flakne has been asked to find out who wishes to attend. Cathy McGlynn of the Northeastern Illinois Invasive Plants Partnership is arranging these workshops, which focus on the North Branch watershed, and the last one is Tuesday, March 24th at the Wilmette Park District from 9am to noon. Comm. Beck expressed an interest in attending. She reported that there was a meeting she attended with Chairman Saunders to talk about raising the profile of invasive species in the community for residents. The state has an invasive species month, so Glenview is planning a few activities. Comm. Halliday is also interested in attending with Comm. Beck.

Invasive Species Awareness Month (May): Chris Evans from Springfield is an invasive species coordinator, and asks that everyone register their events with him for a statewide list being coordinated. Dr. Flakne will send him the next two items on the agenda (Spring 2015 River Cleanup on May 9th and the Invasive Species Presentation on May 19th) as Glenview's participation. It is a statewide attempt to get everyone going in

the same direction and having events center around this. There are videos Lynne Stiefel is putting together and there will also be a few things in the newsletter.

The May 19th presentation at the library will include information about alternative plantings that can be used in homeowners' gardens. Comm. Beck suggested using the library's display cases. Comm. Halliday agreed to bring some of her brochures and illustrations to the library. Commissioner Beck suggested picking some freshly picked buckthorn and garlic mustard.

Detention basin plantings: An Eagle Scout candidate is planning to plant plugs into the detention basin by the United Methodist Church on Harlem on May 30th. Dr. Flakne would like to get some NRC representatives to participate, along with some of Comm. Chiappetta's Project Earth group.

- **Regional Trees Initiative Update:** Dr. Flakne reported the Chicago Region Trees Initiative is moving forward with several committees and subcommittees. Jim Anderson from Lake County Forest Preserves hopes to have a month dedicated to celebrating oaks and what they do for the community, so it will be "Oaktober." Comm. Beck stated that they will try to get the new governor to sign an Executive Order declaring "Oaktober" and that this will be a good opportunity to talk about healthy trees. As October gets closer, some local events can be discussed. Comm. Newman asked how this will complement what is being done in April for Arbor Day. Comm. Beck feels it will be a good chance to talk about "Oaktober" and will be a good way to spread the word. Dr. Flakne noted that there are some drawbacks to October, and that there was some advocacy that a spring month might be better since oaks are best planted in the spring.
- **Tree Preservation Ordinance:** Dr. Flakne reported that the Tree Preservation Ordinance revisions have now been passed. The ordinance has been updated to reflect the fact that the Village does not want to replace all trees with one species if several trees die on a block. Since it has been adopted, there will be an article about tree planting in the next newsletter.
- Comm. Beck spoke to John Hedrick, a former member of the Appearance Commission. He has been wanting to take a look at the trees in the Circles neighborhood to determine the heritage trees. Possible timelines to do this were discussed. It doesn't seem reasonable to do by Arbor Day since they won't want to walk the neighborhood until the trees are green with leaves. Comm. Ganim commented that he went on the website to look at the heritage tree registry, but the links weren't working when he clicked on the tree names. Dr. Flakne explained that there were only photos on the Heritage Tree page but no links. She noted that in the past there were links to external websites from the Village tree planting page but these were removed because maintaining the links over time is impractical.

- **Project updates**

Dr. Flakne reported on the stabilization project behind Heinen's, which was on hiatus until weather conditions improve. The last structure in the river will be the installation of a crossvane, to be followed by the sidewalk at the top of the slope. After that, they will quit until spring when it will be time to do the plantings. Comm. Beck inquired about signs. Dr. Flakne stated Public Works has created a sign, but when they attempted to install it where the Project Manager suggested, the construction crew was working there so they held off and are now looking for a new location. Comm. Beck suggested including some information in the village newsletter again. Dr. Flakne agreed to do this if there was any space available to do so.

Dr. Flakne reported that CMAP (Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning) is still planning to assist Glenview with an ordinance review. Jeff Brady is ensuring this will occur and that the Village Manager and Board of Trustees will agree to the **Memorandum** of Understanding.

- **Outreach:**

Comm. Beck requested that there be further discussion on the Green Table at March's meeting.

7. Adjournment

Commissioner Newman moved to adjourn; Commissioner Ganim seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried 3-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Schultz
Recording Secretary