

MINUTES
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
March 20, 2017

Final

1. Call to Order by the Chairperson

The March 20, 2017 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:01 p.m. in the Dewes Conference 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 Halliday, Newman, Ganim and Dr. Flakne,
Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison

ABSENT: Commissioners Beck and Chung

GUESTS: Megan Loker, GIS Specialist with MGP
Scott Daniels, Glenview Resident
Mark Kopec, Glenview resident

3. Approval of Minutes

The following changes were requested to be made to the January 23, 2017 Minutes:

- Page 2 – (Old Business) Insert a hyphen in CHI-CAL, and add the words “grant program.”
- Page 3 – Add Commissioner Halliday as also being present at the Commissioner Training.
- Page 4 – CONSEG Business Plan mentions specifically the bike shop – just say “retailers”
- Page 5 – Remove the words “making the final 40 cut.”

Commissioner Ganim moved to approve the January 23, 2017 minutes as amended. Commissioner Newman seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0.

5. General Communications

None

6. Consideration of Cases on the Agenda

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Green Infrastructure and Heritage Tree maps (Guest speaker: Megan Loker)
Ms. Loker from MGP, Inc. is part of the GIS Department of the village. She demonstrated how to access two new story maps from the village website. They can be located under “About Glenview/Natural Resources/Green Infrastructure Project Interactive Map.” During March there is a “Map Madness” contest in the Village which allows residents to vote for their favorite map. To do so, a viewer just needs to “like”

the map once when logged into their Facebook account. Chairperson Saunders suggested using the display for the Green Table.

- Green Business Award

Chairperson Saunders reported that at one time there were a number of businesses that won the Green Business Award and were recognized by the Village Trustees. However, this hasn't happened in the last few years, so she spoke with Tony Repp of the Planning Department, who agreed to do some type of recognition. He suggested structuring the applications around four or five principles and soliciting applicants through Ms. Stiefel and the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Daniels shared information about a similar recognition program used by the Rotary Club. A business just needs to write up what they have done to support sustainability and turn in the application by the end of February. The judging is conducted by a panel of three judges. They will award a gold, silver and bronze award to be handed out at Goose Island Brewery on April 19th (near Earth Day). The three award winners will then talk about their projects. The challenge is getting people to sign up with a short turnaround time, although most of the companies have ongoing sustainability efforts. Commissioner Newman works on a similar program in which the Environmental Protection Agency challenges federal facilities to make a 5% improvement in several categories including waste, transportation, energy, water use, and purchasing and then report at the end of each year. They also have a narrative award for education and outreach innovation. Discussion ensued about how to recognize local businesses for their sustainability efforts. Commissioner Newman suggesting breaking it down into different categories. Mr. Kopec gave examples of how small businesses could have lots of opportunities to save money for their company and also be eligible for a green award. Commissioner Newman asked what is currently important to the village, such as LED retrofits or other challenges. Chairperson Saunders noted that many businesses are restaurants so perhaps food waste could be considered.

Ideas were discussed for principles, such as waste reduction, energy, transportation, and landscaping. Mr. Kopec thought handing out a checklist and brochure advertising and going to businesses individually would help rather than have the businesses search out the information. Once the guidelines are decided, it would need to be advertised and marketed and a deadline set. Commissioner Ganim proposed borrowing application forms from other sustainability awards. It was agreed to keep the checklist short so interest is not lost. **Mr. Daniels and Mr. Newman agreed to collaborate on generating additional ideas for this award program.**

OLD BUSINESS

Project and grant updates

Dr. Flakne reported Glenview was not selected as a finalist for the Sunshot initiative. However, they asked her to attend a follow-up meeting in April to discuss potential

changes and new funding streams in Illinois. She will share the correspondence they sent with NRC members.

Three more signs will be installed at the Riverwalk and detention basin. Two will be at each end of the walk, and one will be at the Methodist Church detention basin.

Dr. Flakne reported that a grant application was submitted for a ComEd Green Region which is a small amount, but perfect for continuing to improve landscaping for monarch habitat. She noted that the garden near the train station will be done with or without funding.

Dr. Flakne has four applications due over the next two months.

Review of recent meetings/events

- League of Women Voters environmental meeting - January 26
Dr. Flakne attended this meeting and reported that most of the discussion was regarding the coal tar policy issue and what other towns are doing. Chairman Saunders shared some flyers about the bill currently in the House for discussion. An article in the Chicago Tribune reported there is no evidence a sealant helps or hurts the asphalt. The State Representative sponsoring the bill is Laura Fine from Glenview.
- Great Rivers Chicago meeting - February 22
Dr. Flakne and Chairperson Saunders attended this meeting. The attendance was high due to the possibility of grant funding for projects, with applications that are due at the end of May. This is the culmination of a long process of doing a study of the rivers and getting public input to make them friendly to the public. They are wrapping up the final planning stage and moving toward implementation. They partner with Chicago Community Trust for funding, but this round is not for capital projects.
- Wild Things Conference - February 18
Dr. Flakne reported there was a great deal of information provided.
- River Summit - March 9
Commissioner Beck attended and shared the information she obtained regarding water quality. Every April the Friends of the Chicago River encourages people to have less water going into the sewer.
- CONSEG (Council of North Suburban Environmental Group)
Chairperson Saunders attended their last meeting and reported there was a lot of sharing of information. John Quail spoke about the rivers and Deb Shore talked about what the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District does.

Planning for upcoming meetings/events

- April 23rd @ 2:00 p.m. - Earth Day talk at the Glenview Library
Margaret Frisbie will be talking about the river during her presentation of *People, Water & Wildlife: A New Look at the Chicago River*.
- Arbor Day Observance - April 27th
Dr. Flakne reported the horticulture students will not be attending due to a conflict. Also, the Project Earth group ~~is~~ seems to be no longer in existence. However, the Garden Club will participate in the Arbor Day observance along with Dr. Flakne and Chairperson Saunders. The tree will be planted in the courtyard of Glenbrook South, and the Arbor Day observance will help Glenview maintain its Tree City USA status.
- Fish Release - April 29
Dr. Flakne reported this is driven by a Glenview Park District Board member and Rotary Club member who saw it done elsewhere. She is involved since Lake Glenview is village owned. A portion of the village's typical fish order for stocking the lake each year will be released by event participants instead of the hatchery.
- River Day - May 13
Chairperson Saunders is awaiting a copy of the flyer. The annual event is part of the Chicago River Day occurring along the Chicago River.
- Art Competition
The posting for the *Call for Art* was reviewed by the NRC members. Chairperson Saunders will attempt to obtain a clearer copy. Photographs are also being included this year. It was noted that the Art League made enough money from last year's event to purchase a new tent. The Library and Park District were able to display the work.
- Green Table
Chairperson Saunders is meeting with the new Farmer's Market manager this week. She would like to start compiling a calendar and requested input of ideas from all NRC members. She encouraged everyone to continue to take one Saturday. One idea was to have the University of Illinois prairie group participate. Chairperson Saunders asked Commissioner Newman to find out if there is a District 34 group of kids available for the Green Table.

Commissioner Halliday shared information about bicycling and how Chicago ranked very high among bike friendly cities.

Commissioner Halliday shared a *Natural History* magazine article regarding feral cats and how harmful they are to the bird population.

Commissioner Halliday shared a copy of a Letter to the Editor at the *Glenview Lantern* written by Carol Freeman about boating on Lake Glenview.

Outreach

- Posting art flyer in coffee shops
- Speaking with local businesses about the sustainability awards

7. Adjournment

Commissioner Newman moved to adjourn; Commissioner Ganim seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Schultz
Recording Secretary