

**MINUTES  
GLENVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
September 18, 2017**

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

The September 18, 2017 meeting of the Glenview Natural Resources Commission was called to order by Chairperson Saunders at 7:00 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, Halliday, Ganim, Dr. Robyn Flakne, Natural Resources Manager and Staff Liaison

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Newman

**GUESTS:** Jeff Brady, Director of Planning  
Wyatt Cummings, Glenview resident  
Scott Daniels, Glenview resident  
Kent Fuller, Glenview resident  
Farrukh Jafer, League of Women Voters  
Mark Kopec, Glenview resident

**3. Approval of Minutes**

The following changes were made to the July 24, 2017 Minutes:

- Change Katie to “Katy” wherever her name is noted
- Change meeting date to “July 24” on page 1
- Page 2 – last paragraph. Change responsibilities of interns to include additional information.

Commissioner Beck moved to approve the July 24, 2017 Minutes as amended. Commissioner Ganim seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Beck abstained as she was not present at the March meeting.

**4. General Communications**

Commissioner Beck spoke about language translation, and since 12.5% of Glenview’s population is Korean, she proposed adding their language to the Village’s translator program. Mr. Brady agreed to look into this request.

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

None

## NEW BUSINESS

- *Environmentally Significant Area (ESA) Ordinance Review*

Jeff Brady reported that there have been inquiries regarding a building in the Prairie Glen Corporate Campus on Patriot Boulevard for a fertility clinic. The Environmental Review Committee reviews projects that are determined to need to go through the ESA process. This project would be covered by the Covenants, Codes, and Restrictions (CC&R's) in effect for this property on the Glen Redevelopment site. When staff was going through this with the developer they were aware of the CC&R's. They followed a graphic showing the project limits were close to the property line, and within the CC&R's is a requirement that has a professional landscaper review the site to ensure the landscaping design and building height is compatible with the prairie. Mr. Fuller called while looking at the boundaries and reported that construction was really close to the prairie. He looked at specific wording in the document that says a one-story building has to have a 200' setback from the prairie buffer. The developer was asked to clarify on their engineering plan where the building was planned, and it was 5' to 10' feet too close in certain spots. They will move the entire development 5' to 10' feet to the west. Those adjustments will occur as part of the Village Board's final approval of the development in October.

Chairperson Saunders stated that building height is an issue to restrict birds of prey and preserve sunlight while limiting artificial light. Mr. Brady stated that other concerns were the type of landscape material and they are using all native species. It's a very simple pre-cast building and one story which will be designed to help make the building more aesthetically pleasing. Parking lot lighting is 105' to 100' feet from the property line. Fixtures are 16' feet or lower and shaded.

Mr. Brady then reviewed the Village's Environmentally Significant Area (ESA) zoning, which is an overlay zoning district. Article IX of the ESA Ordinance specifies when an environmental plan needs to be done. No portion of the Kent Fuller Air Station Prairie ESA boundaries go onto the fertility clinic lot. The overlay district requirements don't apply so the project was not reviewed by the Environmental Review Commission. Staff ensured landscaping will be in accordance with the CC&R's.

Commissioner Halliday asked how the building will affect the drainage in the area and was advised by Mr. Brady that drainage will not be affected. For the entire Glen area, per the regional engineering calculations all stormwater is designed to drain to Lake Glenview. Stormwater will not drain to the east because of the berm.

Commissioner Beck inquired about the groundwater, as she believes it is an issue with the changing climate. Mr. Brady asked if the concern is with the digging hitting the water table or if the water being held there seeping through the soils to go east or west. Commissioner Beck explained that it is a unique eco system and groundwater effects should be looked at when doing projects. Mr. Brady stated that it is not a requirement

the Village can enforce. She would like him to have a discussion with the developer. He doesn't see any detrimental issues happening since it is surface improvements with respect to curb and gutter and the building is on a slab with no basement, just footings below the freeze line. Commissioner Beck expressed concerns about other buildings in the future.

Mr. Fuller talked about another large building near the Grove and how the Plan Commission required clay dams to protect the wetlands. This building is now Guaranteed Trust between the Grove and Milwaukee. Mr. Brady noted that after this case they adjusted the ESA boundaries.

Mr. Brady stated that there is likely to be two other buildings at a maximum of two stories. There may be some single-family houses in the ESA locations near the Grove, but there is no other significant development.

Commissioner Halliday asked if the parking lot pavement will be permeable. Mr. Brady responded that the Plan Commission asked that they have more permeable pavers in the parking sections. He will check on this concern. Commissioner Ganim asked Mr. Fuller if he sees any other impacts on the prairie as an environmentally significant area. Mr. Fuller stated that the fertility clinic is in compliance with the rules, both the ESA ordinance and CC&R's, but the mass of the building is at back of the lot on the east side. Other developments put parking near the prairie instead of placing the building on that side. Mr. Brady agreed it could be flipped, and noted that parking away from the prairie moves lighting away from the prairie. Mr. Fuller would like to see the Village Trustees give more consideration to the edge of these in the future. Commissioner Ganim was concerned as this does seem to indicate that if a development affects an environmentally significant area it would be subject to review.

Commissioner Beck would like to have discussion regarding groundwater issues, and asked if there could be a way of informing the Environmental Review Committee what has been proposed and that no major issue has been found. There is an opportunity for someone with expertise to raise any concerns if they see anything requiring an environmental review. Chairperson Saunders would like the NRC notified if developments near or affecting natural areas are going before the Plan Commission. Mr. Brady asked that if anyone knows of professionals in the environmental field to let him or Dr. Flakne know as the Environmental Review Committee is in need of members. He explained that the NRC is advisory in nature, whereas the Environmental Review Committee a regulatory review body that makes recommendations to the Plan Commission, which makes recommendations to the Village Board. Mr. Brady stated that he will send Dr. Flakne a link to the items currently on-line related to this proposal.

*Review and Comment on Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning Local Technical Assistance Project Scope*

Mr. Brady reported that part of the Comprehensive Plan highlights that the village has an NRC and describes its priorities. The plan for nature is a continually evolving document. As part of its goals, prior to embarking on the most recent Comprehensive Plan process the Village was working with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) on how to better incorporate green infrastructure and sustainability into Village codes and ordinances. Mr. Brady requested input on CMAP's proposed scope and a timeline for creating a steering committee and implementing the project. There is a new Village Manager and there will be a measured, long-term approach to the project. Mr. Brady asked everyone to look at each heading, noting that the idea is it will take 8-10 months. He will use the NRC's input to finalize the scope with CMAP and bring an Intergovernmental Agreement and resolution to the Village Board. The scope will include developing a steering committee, having a various range of stake holders from the community and staff who will help guide this process. A kickoff meeting will establish best practices and determine processes to complete the project. Ultimately recommendations arising from the project will go through the Plan Commission and Village Board. A chart within the proposed scope of work outlines the tasks and how long they will take, starting in April of 2018 and finishing up toward the end of the year. If any member has comments or input, let Mr. Brady know through Dr. Flakne.

Commissioner Beck is on the CMAP Land Use Committee. She stated that this technical assistance program has been in effect for a couple of years, and they looked at why some projects were more successful than others. What they found is that whoever is on the steering committee is one of the critical factors. Based on that fact, she feels it will be successful for Glenview.

Mr. Fuller asked what the role of the NRC is in this. Mr. Brady stated that someone from the NRC is going to be on the Steering Committee and will accept any suggestions for other members if anyone has names to consider. Commissioner Beck commented that is important to get some of the businesses in town or an individual in the field on the Committee.

*Field Museum Milkweed Data and Monarch Planning*

Dr. Flakne reported that the interns surveyed all milkweed stems in the village that they could view from street. They compiled results into a map generated by the Field Museum's GIS Department. This gives an idea there is a great deal of milkweed and some residents are planting it on purpose. It was very informative and exceeded expectations. They also followed up with a five-question survey in e-Glenview and the Village Report that has had 67 responses to date. The project brings attention to monarch habitats and Wyatt Cummings has presented information at the downtown Metra station and at the Farmer's Market Green Table. He plans to install monarch way station signs at certain locations. Mr. Kopec asked if they are keeping track of those patches of milkweed naturally occurring or those being planted by residents. When Dr.

Flakne stated they are not differentiating that, Mr. Kopec suggested using a color coded map. Photos and data were provided to Glenview's GIS Department to make a story map. Mr. Cummings met some residents at the Green Table who were very interested. He feels that Glenview stayed ahead of other communities with monarchs by making certain habitats better or improving milkweed densities, but they need to determine how to further improve. Commissioner Beck suggested looking at Evanston since they concentrate on wildlife guidelines. Dr. Flakne stated she will work on a rudimentary plan that can be developed with NRC input. A public relations campaign can be planned to get schools and the garden club to plant milkweed. Commissioner Beck noted that milkweed is the state's new wildflower.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Glenview Environmental Sustainability Award**  
Mr. Daniels reported that all comments were put into a revised draft and a form which was shared with the NRC. He provided a quick run through of the changes, including the purpose, objectives of the initiative, background and how they plan to incorporate education, leadership and outreach. Based on discussion at the July NRC meeting they decided an applicant should be a Glenview organization that is associated with the village. Eligible projects have been completed within the last 18 months, but this will become 12 months once the program is established. Mr. Kopec asked about out of scope topics such as human rights initiatives and whether the application can include an option to make a case. He talked about possibly opening it further than just traditional sustainability since it would be helpful to be more inclusive. Chairperson Saunders commented that they need the entire village to buy into it and it has to be under the purview of the NRC. Mr. Kopec suggested starting with sustainability and then broadening. Commissioner Beck noted a glossary would be needed to define terms such as sustainability and green infrastructure.

Commissioner Halliday suggested a change on the bottom of page 1 of the draft, which is to say "documentation is required" rather than "encouraged." Chairperson Saunders suggested keeping the form as simple as possible to help encourage participation. Commissioner Ganim provided input on the language. Commissioner Halliday also noted some changes which she passed along to Mr. Daniels. He will talk with the head of the Chamber of Commerce, Betsy Baer. A potential rollout date of February 28<sup>th</sup> is being considered.

- **Review of recent meetings/events**
  - **Forest Preserve Bike Tour – August 13<sup>th</sup>**  
Commissioner Ganim reported this was on the North Branch Trail and had a good turnout. The Friends of the Forest Preserves provided explanations of what is happening in the Forest Preserves. This ride was part of "Bike Glenview."

- Green Infrastructure Bike Tour – August 27<sup>th</sup>  
Dr. Flakne reported the weather was cooperative and there were 10 riders participating who were very interested.
- Go Green Illinois – September 12<sup>th</sup>  
Chairperson Saunders reported the group was formerly known as CONSEG and this presentation was about energy. She suggested removing this from the NRC Business Plan as it is really an advocacy group that has changed to a statewide focus. All members agreed to remove it; however, Chairperson Saunders will continue to share their meeting announcements.
- Fall River Clean-up  
It was agreed to schedule this event for November 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to noon. Dr. Flakne will ask Carol Freeman to create a flyer with the required information. Wyatt Cummings will be asked to get a group from the high school to participate.
- Oaktober  
Dr. Flakne will be doing a tree walk at the Grove on October 21<sup>st</sup>. There will also be an oak tree giveaway at the Farmer’s Market on that date and on September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Heritage Tree Application  
Dr. Flakne reported that one application was received for 1920 Sunset Ridge that was submitted by an individual in California. Commissioner Ganim will determine if it is already on the Registry. If not, he will contact them to have it measured even if it is outside of the established nomination time frame.

Commissioner Beck reported that one of the Heritage American elm trees at the entrance to the Circles died and has been removed due to Dutch elm disease.

- Planning for upcoming meetings/events
  - Art Competition  
Chairperson Saunders reported they did not get as many entries as last year but they did receive some good ones. These were recently put on display at the library. A reception will be held on October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
  - Cook County Community Solar Meeting – Dr. Flakne reported Glenview may not be eligible for some of the opportunities offered by the Mayor’s Metropolitan Caucus since they have not signed the Greenest Region Compact.
  - Chairperson Saunders reported the Field Museum is hosting a free Green Team Summit October 15<sup>th</sup>, and that registration is required. There will be many environmental speakers, but it is primarily for faith groups.

- Commissioner Halliday asked about the Metropolitan Mayor's Environmental Caucus at Mayslake Peabody Estate and was advised no one from the NRC will be attending.

## **6. Adjournment**

Commissioner Ganim moved to adjourn; Commissioner Beck seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Eileen Schultz*

Recording Secretary