

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

MAY 18, 2021

Board or Commission: Environmental
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: Yes

Date: May 18, 2021
Called to Order: 7:05 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:29 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Christie Truitt	Chairman	Present
Jeff D. Abeln	Commissioner	Absent
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
Karin Daly	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowski	Commissioner	Present
David Meehan	Commissioner	Present
Steve Swanson	Commissioner	Present
Jennifer E. Umlauf	Commissioner	Absent

Also Present:

Emily Rodman	Assistant Village Manager	
Renae Frigo	Park District Liaison	
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	
Katie Hardesty	Student Intern	
PUBLIC		

I. CALL TO ORDER

The **May 18, 2021** regular meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Truitt at **7:05 PM** at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center via Zoom Call.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 16, 2021 & APRIL 20, 2021 MEETING**

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 3/16/2021

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Swanson

SECONDER: Commissioner Casazza

AYES: 6

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 4/20/2021

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Kwiatkowski

SECONDER: Commissioner Swanson

AYES: 6

- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Assistant Village Manager Rodman invites the EC to the Parking Garage Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on May 20th at 4:00 p.m. in the parking area outside of the garage.
- V. TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT** – No report.
- VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT** – Assistant Village Manager Rodman reports a new Trustee will be assigned to the EC at the May Board meeting. The EC should have a new Trustee by the June meeting.
- VII. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON'S REPORT** – Park District Liaison Frigo reports that in the past the EC worked with COD on the One Earth Film Festival. This fall they are thinking of offering an environmental documentary. She asks if the EC would be interested in co-sponsoring and promoting this event. Chairman Truitt states it would depend on the movie content. The movie would have to pertain to the environment. Frigo will let COD know that the EC is willing to participate and will report back to the EC.
Frigo thanks Commissioner Casazza for helping out with the River Clean-Up.

VIII. **COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND REPORTS**

A. Arts Initiatives:

1. Current Projects Update: Chairman Truitt reports Commissioner Umlauf is still waiting to find out if the owner of Katie's Boutique signed the agreement for the mural. Assistant Village Manager Rodman adds the owner has not signed off on it, we are looking at other locations. The artist will be in town next week to look at other locations and will also go to Lake Ellyn for inspiration.

2. Discussion New Topics for Library: Chairman Truitt reports she met with Dawn Bussey and she asked with all of our arts initiatives and demonstration gardens if we would be interested in partnering with her on beautifying the utility box and platform outside the library. Assistant Manager Rodman adds we would have to find out who owns the box. There are creative wraps available that can go on utility boxes to make them look nicer. Commissioner Kwiatkowski volunteers to take on this initiative. Assistant Manager Rodman adds John Hubsby, superintendent of utilities, would know who owns the utility box and Dawn Bussie from the library are the individuals who could help facilitate this project.

B. Education Topics:

1. Recap of Earth Day Symposium: Park District Liaison Frigo reports that the Earth Day Symposium went very well. We received great feedback. Several people contacted me after the event wanting the links so they could share with others. Frigo adds the Symposium is on the Park District website for anyone to view. I will try to see if I can find out the stats on views. Chairman Truitt adds we will plan on offering the Earth Day Symposium again next year. We should start thinking about future topics. She thanks Frigo and the EC for their hard work.
2. Discussion Go Green Glen Ellyn Chapter & Other Partnering Opportunities: Commissioner Casazza reports that she attended another Go Green of Illinois meeting last week covering Waste Diversion. After the discussion various communities did a round robin on what they are working on. Since I am already tapped into this network I am happy to try and get this going. There are so many things Glen Ellyn is already doing and Go Green could be a conduit for us.
3. Upcoming Events & Opportunities for New Partnerships: Park District Liaison Frigo reports the Pollinator Garden Walk is scheduled for tomorrow. Commission Commissioner Swanson and I met at Mary Knoll Park to discuss how we will do the walks. Commissioner Daly asks how this event was promoted. Frigo replies an E-Newsletter went out on Sunday and it is also on the Park District's website under free garden talks. Emails were also sent out to over 1,000 residents. The EC discusses livestreaming this event or putting it into a podcast. Commissioner Daly will attend the garden walk to see what kind of content is available from a marketing perspective. Chairman Truitt likes the idea of recording the walks and offering something interactive on the Park District and EC website. Once that framework is in place it will be easy to add to it.

Chairman Truitt reports that our next Green Gathering will be on June 9th at the library with the Morton Arboretum presenting Healthy Homes.

4. Garden Blitz with Conservation Foundation: Frigo reports that Jim Kleinwachter from the Conservation Foundation would like to do a GE Day/Hour at the farm. He would do a private tour at the Conservation Foundation showing sustainable landscaping and what they have done over the years. Chairman Truitt asks if we could offer that in June and July. Park District Liaison Frigo will follow up with

the Conservation Foundation.

C. Greenest Region Compact Initiatives

1. Revisit Green Building Guidelines: Commissioner Meehan reports the initial draft document was put together and was circulated to the EC. We received some great feedback. I am putting that feedback into a final document to bring before the EC again. Once this is approved by the EC, I will work on a recognition process for individuals and businesses that are following the guidelines. Todd Birman helped with this initiative but he has since stepped down from the EC. I am looking for another Commissioner who would like to help with this initiative. Commissioner Swanson offers to help. Commissioner Meehan will send the revised document to Commissioner Swanson for review.

2. Discussion of GWA Energy Neutral Initiative: Commissioner Casazza has spoken to someone who has experience with this initiative. He suggested applying for grants from Energy Coalition & CMAP. He also offered to introduce us to someone in solar plus storage. We need to determine what the EC's role is in this. We don't have the technical knowledge for this initiative. Commissioner Swanson adds he looked into this and there is so much out there and it is very technical. There is a role for the EC but we are not an authority on it. We need to follow Mark Senak's lead on this as to what he wants the commission to do. Assistant Village Manager Rodman adds she can work on getting the EC in contact with Mark Senak.

Chairman Truitt states next month we will revisit the Green Building Guidelines, Education Topics, Recycling Extravaganza and Go Green. I will email all commissioners to see what subcommittees you would like to work on. Chairman Truitt asks Student Intern Hardesty if the Eco Club would like to volunteer for some of our events. Hardesty will discuss with the head of the Eco Club and report back

IX. Next Meeting & Adjournment

A. The next EC meeting will be held on June 15, 2021.

B. Commissioner Kwiatkowski motions and Commissioner Meehan seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

MOVE TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING FROM 5/18/2021

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Kwiatkowski

SECONDER: Commissioner Meehan

AYES: Truitt, Casazza, Daly, Kwiatkowski, Swanson

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Rodman