

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

APRIL 20, 2021

Board or Commission: Environmental
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: Yes

Date: April 20, 2021
Called to Order: 7:05 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:46 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

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

Also Present:

Emily Rodman	Assistant Village Manager	
Craig Pryde	Trustee Liaison	
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	
Renae Frigo	Park District Liaison	
PUBLIC		

I. CALL TO ORDER

The **April 20, 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 MEETING

MOVE TO DEFER THE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM 3/16/2021 TO THE MAY 18, 2021 EC MEETING.

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Umlauf

SECONDER: Commissioner Abeln

AYES: 7

- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Chairman Truitt welcomes Commissioners Daly and Kwiatkowski to the EC. Commissioner Daly has been a Glen Ellyn resident since 2011. She has a marketing and communications background. Commissioner Kwiatkowski has been a resident of Glen Ellyn since 2019. She served on the Oak Park Village Community and Design Commission which is similar to the GE Environmental Commission. Chairman Truitt announces that Commissioner Todd Birman will be stepping down from the EC due to his increased work schedule. There is now another open Commissioner position we will be looking to fill.

- V. TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT** – Trustee Pryde reports Mark Senak was elected as Village President effective in May. Gary Fascules will resume his Trustee position. Mark Senak's Trustee position will be filled by an appointment. The Village Board is in the process of reviewing the Comprehensive Plan. The current Comprehensive Plan is 20 years old and is in need of an update. We have been working on the Comprehensive Plan since 2018. The new Village Board will be approving the Comprehensive Plan once adjustments and changes have been finalized. The Village Board approved several residential applications. The Board also approved the funding for the CBD Streetscape. This is a massive project that will be updating utilities, sidewalks, streets and trees. The project will start in 2022. Chairman Truitt asks what the timeline is for the CBD Streetscape project. Trustee Pryde replies that the project will take 3-4 years to complete. Phase 1 – 2022 Main Street South of the tracks, Phase 2 -2023 – North Main Street & Pennsylvania and Phase 3 – 2024 Duane Street, Prospect and Forest. The Train Station Project will begin 2024-2025. Commissioner Casazza asks to what extent we can help with the messaging of this project to our residents. Trustee Pryde replies a lot of the water mains are in need of replacing, approaching 100 years old. We need major upgrades to improve storm sewers. We will be replacing smaller mains with larger mains to help with water flow. As long as we are doing that, we might as well replace the streets and parking to make them ADA compliant - which they currently are not. We will also include more outdoor dining space. The trees are also in need of being replaced due to their mature state. The new trees will be planted in Silva cells, which will give them a healthier environment in which to thrive. Commissioner Casazza adds these are all great points to share with the residents.

Trustee Pryde adds tonight will be my last meeting as your Trustee Liaison, my term is up and I will be leaving the Village Board after 18 years of service. Chairman Truitt

thanks Trustee Pryde for his service.

- VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT** – Assistant Village Manager Rodman reports the Parking Garage/Ped-way is scheduled to be completed by May 1st. The landscaping will be completed mid-May. A ribbon cutting ceremony is planned for May 20, 2021.
- VII. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON'S REPORT** – Park District Liaison Frigo reports that we are getting ready for our Earth Day Symposium on Sunday April 25th 1:00-4:00. We currently have 85 people signed up. We are doing a marketing push this week to get more attendees. Chairman Truitt adds Renae has lined up some great speakers. It is our job as a commission to staff this event. Tomorrow we will have a moderator prep call at 1:30 to go over details. Assistant Village Manager Rodman asks if you need someone from IT to be on call during the Symposium in case you have any trouble. Chairman Truitt replies yes that would be a good idea.

Frigo states, I still have about 50 more Red Oak trees to give away if you know of anyone who would like one. Commissioner Casazza will get the word out about the Red Oak trees to members of the PTA. Frigo adds, we set up our Rain Barrel and Compost Sale that we will promote at the Earth Day Symposium. We have already received orders. Pick up will be May 21st. The River Clean-Up is Saturday May 15th 9:00-12:00 at Churchill Woods Forest Preserve. I am looking for a volunteer to help facilitate this event. I will be out of town that day. If anyone is interested please let me know. The facilitator would be responsible for going over safety protocols, supply distribution and managing the volunteer sign-in/out sheet.

VIII. COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND REPORTS

A. Arts Initiatives: Commissioner Umlauf reports that the murals at the Ped-Walkway and across from Katie's boutique that we are helping to fund with the \$12,000 grant, should be completed by May 1st.

B. Marketing & Education Topics: Chairman Truitt reports this year the One Earth film Festival will be held online only. The EC is sponsoring a film this week in alignment with Earth Day. I will send out a link to our film.

Chairman Truitt reports we had our first Green Gathering at the library on April 14th. The Conservation Foundation was our first speaker. We had about 30 attendees. Our next Green Gatherings will be in June and September. The Morton Arboretum will be discussing Healthy Homes in June and Healthy Hedges in September. It would be great if we as a commission could participate.

Recycling Extravaganza – Commissioner Abeln reports he spoke with the vendors and September 18th has been confirmed. Assistant Village Manager Rodman is still waiting to hear back from COD to confirm. Rodman adds the shredding company has confirmed their participation. Chairman Truitt adds, we ask that all EC Commissioners help on the day of the event.

Park District Liaison reports that the self-guided garden walks are scheduled for May,

June and July. They will be ½ hour long offered on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. The gardens that will be included in the walks are Boathouse at Lake Ellyn, Village Green Park by the baseball fields, Mary Knoll Park Butterfly Garden, Akraman Park and Village Green. The exact dates have been set. I will forward them on to the EC. Commissioners Umlauf and Swanson will be doing the guided talks. Chairman Truitt thanks Frigo and Umlauf for putting this together.

C. Greenest Region Compact Initiatives – Commissioner Casazza spoke with Beth Drucker, the founder of Go Green Illinois. They currently have chapters in the North and Northwest suburbs but no chapters out here yet. She said anything we wish to use/adopt from Go Green we are able to do that. I am now on their newsletter distribution and anything I receive from them I will share with the EC.

Commissioner Umlauf and I listened to a Leaf Blower Ordinance Webinar. It was very informative. Our biggest takeaway was educating the residents beyond the noise. The health impacts of leaf blowers and the environmental impact they have. Commissioner Casazza asks Park District Liaison Frigo what equipment the park district uses. Frigo adds we've talked about using more battery powered machinery but we don't have the maintenance staff to do that nor do we have the power capability. We currently abide by the village's noise ordinances. Most of the land does fall on private property. Perhaps we could check with landscapers. Commissioner Casazza adds Go Green is a good resource to tap into as well as American Green Zone Alliance which will go to communities to help with this initiative. I will forward their information to you.

Chairman Truitt reports that Mark Senak has asked us to look into how to make our waste water management more energy neutral. Commissioner Swanson adds the EC currently does not have a lot of experience with this. Trustee Pryde adds perhaps you could be the group that asks the questions and brings awareness. Chairman Truitt adds we could also look to other communities to see what they are doing. Let's do some more research on this topic and set up a tour to go visit the facility.

IX. Next Meeting & Adjournment

A. The next EC meeting will be held on May 18, 2021.

B. Commissioner Swanson motions and Commissioner Kwiatkowski seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

MOVE TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING FROM 4/20/2021

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Swanson

SECONDER: Commissioner Kwiatkowski

AYES: Truitt, Abeln, Casazza, Daly, Kwiatkowski, Swanson, Umlauf

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Rodman