

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

## MINUTES

**December 7, 2021**

**Board or Commission:** Environmental  
**Meeting:** Regular  
**Quorum:** Yes

**Date:** December 7, 2021  
**Called to Order:** 7:05 p.m.  
**Adjourned:** 9:22 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 |
| Steve Swanson       | Commissioner | Present |
| Jennifer E. Umlauf  | Commissioner | Present |
|                     |              |         |
|                     |              |         |
|                     |              |         |

### Also Present:

|                |                                       |  |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Emily Rodman   | Assistant Village Manager             |  |
| Elisa Pollina  | Recording Secretary                   |  |
| Katie Hardesty | Glenbard West Student Eco Club Intern |  |
|                |                                       |  |
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| <b>PUBLIC</b>  |                                       |  |
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### I. CALL TO ORDER

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

### II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 19, 2021 MEETING –

1. Commissioner Swanson motions and Commissioner Kwiatkowski seconds the motion to approve the minutes from October 19, 2021.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 10/19/2021

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Swanson

SECONDER: Commissioner Kwiatkowski

- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Assistant Village Manager Rodman introduces John Hubsy, Assistant Public Works Director, who will be the new staff liaison to the EC. Hubsy states he has worked for Glen Ellyn for 9 years and recently moved up to the Assistant Public Works Director position. He received his undergraduate degree in Resource Ecology & Management from the University of Michigan. Chairman Truitt welcomes Hubsy to this role and thanks Assistant Village Manager Rodman for her partnership and service with the EC this past year.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

November – Decorating the Library Tree – Umlauf reports that she has decorated the tree at the library with grass blooms and hydrangeas.

January – Green Gathering at the Library – Chairman Truitt reports the library will be giving us one date a quarter to discuss EC topics via zoom. Commissioner Casazza asks the EC if anyone would like to volunteer to be a speaker at the next event. She would like 2-3 speakers. She adds the topics we are considering center around New Year's resolutions: nature walks, eating healthy, decluttering, and saving money. January 19<sup>th</sup> will be the first discussion 7:00-8:00 pm. Commissioners Daly, Kwiatkowski and Chairman Truitt volunteer to be speakers. The next scheduled Green Gathering topic is Greener Yards on April 7.

February – EC Scorecard- Chairman Truitt asks the EC to start to think about what categories within the EC scorecard, measurements and progress the village has made that we can highlight and promote in the village newsletter.

- V. TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT** – Trustee Christiansen reports the village board passed a budget. The Holiday Pop-up Bar is open at Reserve 22. The village board approved the HVAC for the Apex 400 building. Polar Plaza is up and running and it has a new curling feature. McKee House - the Midwest Soaring Foundation is looking to turn it into a Native American Environmental Education Center. They are working on raising funds. They are required to have the building occupied by October 2022. There will be a land acknowledgment ceremony on December 18 10:30-12:00.

- VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT** – No report.

- VII. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON'S REPORT** – Frigo reports the Park District has started its holiday light recycling program. Our board approved to hire another full-time person for environmental outreach and help with social media. We had our pumpkin smash event. We had over 1,000 pumpkins. Our winter lecture series will be conducted in-person every other Thursday in the winter months. There will be presentations on birds, growing food in containers, dark skies, and the DuPage Monarch Project. We are also planning our spring programs, which include Earth Day. Frigo asks if the EC would like to partner with the Park District again on this event. Frigo states she has reserved the boathouse for April 24. The boathouse event could accommodate as an indoor spot for potential lectures. All other demonstrations, walks and films will be held outside. The EC agrees to take part in the Earth Day event.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Open Meetings Act (OMA) Training – Assistant Village Manager Rodman reviews the Open Meetings Act with the EC. She states all meetings must have 48-hour advance notice and must be posted on the village website. The number of commissioners who can gather is dependent on the majority of a quorum. In the case of the EC, it is three people. Three or more commission members cannot gather and discuss EC business unless an agenda is posted and minutes are taken. There must also be a staff member & recording secretary present under the village code. Rodman also reviews FOIA with the EC.

## **IX. OLD BUSINESS**

Commission Discussion and Reports

*A. Sustainable Communities/Arts & Mobility:*

1. Liaison to COD Arts Committee – No report

2. Utilities Beautification Program – Commissioner Kwiatkowsky reports she spoke with AT&T and they are not going to wrap the utility boxes due to liability issues, ongoing maintenance and budget. They will continue to maintain the boxes.

3. EBRT - No report.

*B. Economic Development/ Green Business:*

1. *Business Recognition Program:* Assistant Village Manager Rodman suggests the EC get approval from the village board for this program. She suggests submitting a memo explaining the program for the village board to review at a workshop. Rodman adds it would also be helpful to have a member of the EC at the workshop in case there are questions about the program. Once the board approves the Business Recognition program, we can post the information on the village website. Commissioner Kwiatkowsky states she will write the informational memo. She adds we would like to vote on the nominations in May and present the awards in June. Commissioner Casazza states she will reach out to the Chamber to help get the word out about the recognition program and process.

*C. Waste Recycling & Composting:*

1. *Recommendation to Offer Aluminum/ Glass Recycling at Village Events* – Chairman Truitt will check with Trustee Christiansen to see if this was discussed at any of village board meetings or workshops. Commissioners Swanson and Casazza volunteer to look into how other communities are recycling at their events.

2. *Water Treatment & Management* Commissioner Swanson reports that he met Matt Striker and he is very interested in taking part in this initiative. He said they actually put energy back into the grid. I contacted U of I Smart Energy Assistant Center. They offer free services to municipalities that want to become more energy efficient. They are meeting to see what their office can do and are putting together a roadmap. They will also assist in putting together grant money. I spoke with Sean Casten and he will do what he can to secure funds if they become

available. U of I is working on a proposal and if there is money out there, we can pursue it. I have let President Senak know where we are at with this and am waiting to hear back from him.

3. Recycling Extravaganza – Tentative date of April 30.

**X. Next Meeting & Adjournment**

A. The next EC meeting - January 11, 2022.

B. Commissioner Daly motions and Commissioner Umlauf seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm.

**Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary**

**Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Rodman**