

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MINUTES

March 23, 2022

Board or Environmental Commission:

Date: February 23, 2022

Meeting: Special

Called to 7:05 p.m.

Order:

Quorum: Yes

Adjourned: 9:58 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
Steve Swanson	Commissioner	Present
Jennifer E. Umlauf	Commissioner	Present

Also Present:

John Hubsky	Assistant Public Works Director	
Max Brown	Village Forester	
Kelli Christiansen	Trustee Liaison	
Renae Frigo	Park District Liaison (outgoing)	
Chris Gutmann	Park District Liaison (incoming)	
PUBLIC		

I. CALL TO ORDER

The **March 23, 2022** regular meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Truitt at **7:05 PM**.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM February 15, 2022 MEETING –

1. Commissioner Umlauf motions and Commission Daly seconds the motion to approve the minutes from January 15, 2022.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 1/25/2022

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Umlauf

SECONDER: Commissioner Daly

ROLL CALL: Truitt, Daly, Kwiatkowski, Casazza, Swanson, Abeln, Umlauf

- IV. GUEST SPEAKER** – Max Brown, Village Forester with Glen Ellyn Public Works. Provided a brief history of the forester role with the Village and recent restructuring brought this position back as a separate position, duties were being handled by the past Public Works Director. Focus on tree canopy in the Village, including potential loss and ability to promote reforestation, would involve portions of the tree preservation ordinance and potentially modifying/updating the current language. Future partnership opportunities to work with the Park District, private properties, schools, other outside groups (Morton Arboretum, DuPage Forest Preserve, etc.).
- V. TRUSTEE LIAISON** – Christiansen informed that the CBD Streetscape started, uncomfortable for a while as that large project gets underway. Roosevelt Rd. hotel property having public meetings, an affordable housing task force created, Architectural Appearance Commission involved (replaced the Arch. Review Com. Disbanded ~2017). Consultant being utilized to help guide the redevelopment of the parcel. U.S. Bank Site at Forest & Duane – developers meet with Village on March 4th, will be resubmitting updated plans based on changed need with current environment.
- VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT** – Hubsky reports Dark Skies would need to be reviewed in more detail by the Commission, to determine what changes/additions the group would want to see with existing code, to bring a unified ask to the Village Board. That would include work/assistance from Community Development employees. Staffing changes with retirement of PW Administrative Assistant, many of those duties involved the annual tree planting and Tree City USA awards, some of those duties are rolling to the Forester position. Consulted with Com. Development and the Solar+ App is not viable: need for a unified permitting system; ability to submit and review plans/drawings; and allowing a separate permit application opens the door for others, becoming difficult to manage.
- VII. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON'S REPORT** – Frigo is leaving for a position with the Conservation Foundation, working with easements, developments, and open spaces. Brought along Gutmann, who will be taking over as P.D. liaison, comes from DuPage & Will Co. Forest Preserves. Some additional changes in staffing at the P.D. with Renae's departure. Some upcoming events: Sports Swap – trading of gently used equipment @Ackerman Fitness Center; Earth Day Event – April 24th, EC to have a table.
- VIII. RECYCLING EXTRAVAGANZA BUDGET APPROVAL**
1. Commissioner Casazza provided a breakdown of various costs of different recyclable items at the event. Decision was made to eliminate the paper shredding (saving \$1,200) with another April event in the Village already providing that

service to residents. Battery recycling would be taken but not advertised, with the Commission covering those costs, along with the flat can recycling (~\$800) and some costs for paint recycling, especially oil based. A per car cap was decided upon (\$15) for paint. Village Board budgeted \$5,000 for the annual event, motion to request the Village Manager to approve a not to exceed budget of \$5,000 for the event, unanimously passed.

MOVE TO APPROVE A BUDGET NOT TO EXCEED \$5,000 FOR THE RECYCLE EXTRAVAGANZA

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Cassaza

SECONDER: Commissioner Swanson

ROLL CALL: Daly, Kwiatkowski, Casazza, Swanson, Abeln, Umlauf

IX. WORKSHOP TOPICS

1. Planning for upcoming events:
 - a Green Gathering w/ Library – April 7th, Making Greener Choices in Your Yard (topic)
 - b Recycle Extravaganza – April 30th, need information on additional signage requested
 - c Compost Pickup – May 1st, Park District providing
2. Monarch Pledge
 - a Liaison Hubsy informed the Commission that Village staff supports the initiative
 - b Discussion about some updated language, Commissioner Swanson to provide that updated language to Hubsy before sending to the Village Board
 - c Motion to approve sending the Monarch Pledge to the Board for consideration & approval, as amended, by Commissioner Umlaf and seconded by Swanson. Unanimous approval.
3. Tree Preservation
 - a Village code on private trees provided as part of the agenda packet. Forester Brown also mentioned the code that oversee trees in the right-of-way
 - b Liaison Hubsy informed the Commission that they need to review and examine what both sections of the code (public and private) currently entail and from that, determine as a group on what language they may want to see added or modified
 - c Discussion on: heritage trees and the need for an accepted definition; current code allows for trees to be removed if there is not a permit for construction (rules change after permit is submitted);
 - d Wilmette used as an example of a community that recently updated language in their code to assist with tree preservation

X. Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. The next scheduled EC meeting – April 19, 2022. (May move due to schedule conflicts of Commissioners)
- B. Commissioner Swanson motions and Commissioner Daly seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:58 pm.

Submitted & reviewed by Staff Liaison, Hubsy