



Agenda
Village of Glen Ellyn
Environmental Commission Meeting
Tuesday, September 20, 2022
7:00 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 306
535 Duane St.

Members of the public are welcome to speak to any item not specifically listed on tonight's agenda. For those items which are on tonight's agenda, the public will have the opportunity to comment at the time the item is discussed. Individuals wishing to address the Commission shall exercise proper decorum and respect for the proceedings and the business of the Community Relations Commission, and shall refrain from abusive demeanor and language. Commissioners are not obligated to respond to questions. Any individual with a disability requiring reasonable accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should contact The Village of Glen Ellyn ADA Coordinator, 630-469-5000, in advance of the next scheduled meeting.

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Public Participation**
- C. Minute Approval**
 - 1) August 16, 2022 Minutes Draft
- D. Presentations**
 - 1) Community Solar with Adam Hoover from NIMEC
 - 2) Recycling Solution from Creative Outdoor
- E. Trustee Liaison Report**
- F. Park District Liaison Report**
- G. Staff Liaison Report**
- H. Budget Review**
- I. Ordinance Review**
 - 1) Dark Skies and Tree Ordinances Updates
- J. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment**
 - 1) Next meeting October 18, 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

August 16, 2022

Board or Environmental Commission:

Date: August 16, 2022

Meeting: Regular

Called to 7:06 p.m.

Order:

Quorum: Yes

Adjourned: 9:17 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Christie Truitt	Chairman	Present
Jeff D. Abeln	Commissioner	Present
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
Karin Daly	Commissioner	Present (Arrived 7:40)
Barbara Kwiatkowski	Commissioner	Present
Steve Swanson	Commissioner	Present
Jennifer E. Umlauf	Commissioner	Present

Also Present:

John Hubsky	Assistant Public Works Director	
Chris Gutmann	Park District Liaison	
Kelli Christiansen	Trustee Liaison	
Ben English	Student Commissioner	

PUBLIC

Dennis Terdy	233 Forest Ave.	
Michael Benich	230 Forest Ave.	
Lane Reed	178 Sunset Ave.	
Abigail Johnson		

I. CALL TO ORDER

The August 16, 2022 regular meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Truitt at 7:05 PM.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Mr. Terdy, Mr. Benich and Mr. Reed commented on gas leaf blowers:

Dennis stated their goal is for GE to take the leadership prohibiting the use of gas powered leaf blowers. He cited problems like air pollution - 2 stroke gas engines spew more pollution than a 6200lb F150. Equivalent of a 39 mile trip in 30 min use. CA study Lawn care

creates more pollution than 14M cars. Noise pollution at operation is 100dcb of noise - approaching a jet plane/jackhammer. OSHA and EPA define 55dcb outdoors as a nuisance that can interfere with eating, working or sleeping. In GE - 20-30 min per application, so this exposes workers to these risks on a regular daily basis and can cause increased respiratory issues. We know and can do better - let's take the lead in the western suburbs.

Lane Reed stated leaf blowers were designed to blow leaves - they have devolved to be used for "manicured" lawn look. Alternatives - leave the leaves - fewer work hours for municipalities, less gas and emissions reduced runoff, helpful to pollinators. Raking or electric leaf blower are other alternatives.

Michael Benich provided a list of communities in the northern suburbs that have partial or total bans for gas powered leaf blowers. He stated needs for education - for residents on the problems with leaf blowers and the benefits of leaving the leaves. Could include insert in water bill, e newsletter, as education for residents. Education is also needed for contractors/landscapers. He cited an example of a community which asked contractors for a voluntary pledge to comply - the village published their names as being compliant with the ordinance.

Michael also provided enforcement examples - tickets would go to the business, owner needs to appear in muni court. They can be excused from the ticket if they prove they purchased a battery powered leaf blower.

Commissioner Swanson asked about the range of fines - between \$150-\$350. He also asked for research on OSHA and EPA studies to be documented so the EC could share this with the Village Board.

Commissioner Truitt mentioned that there is a working group in the Northern Suburbs that is focusing on this issue. They will be disseminating information at the end of the year and Glen Ellyn can ask for the information. Commissioner Umlauf mentioned that one of the biggest challenges is the registration of contractors which was looked into for providing information on volcano mulching. Lane Reed mentioned that in Wilmette the police helped to compile a list of contractors.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski asked if residents would be fined. Lane responded unclear - would want to ask for a total ban eventually but to baby step for now.

Commissioner Truitt asked about the issues with pollution or the blowing the dust which is worse - Dennis Terdy and Michael clarified the majority of the pollutants from the emissions is the main problem.

Lane indicated that the gas leaf vs electric - the electric is more expensive upfront but there are not the ongoing gas oil costs.

Next steps - EC asked for the residents to continue to share research on other communities and wait for findings of the working group.

EC can recommend to the board of trustees to take actions, but cannot put the ban out ourselves.

Abigail Johnson - student at Wheaton Academy, lived in Glen Ellyn for 6 years. Works at the bookstore. Frustrated with the lack of recycling at the bookstore for cardboard boxes.

Challenges - Trustee Christiansen indicated businesses must pay for their own trash services. This includes trash, recycling, composting. Everything has to be individually contracted out as the village does not regulate what private businesses do. Commissioner Umlauf mentioned Marcel's does pay for their own recycling.

Next steps: Commissioner Truitt offered to include Abigail in a meeting with the Downtown Alliance.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM July 19, 2022 MEETING -

1. Commissioner Umlauf motions and Commissioner Daly seconds the motion to approve the minutes from July 19, 2022 as amended by Commissioner Kwiatkowski to include "We discussed the status of the 2 open commissioner positions and the next steps as well as the confirmation of the student commissioner."

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 7/19/2022

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Umlauf

SECONDER: Commissioner Daly

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

IV. GUEST SPEAKER – Canceled Creative Outdoor and Recycling Solutions

V. TRUSTEE LIAISON – Trustee Christiansen provided the Village Trustee Liaison report. There was a board workshop on the Roosevelt Road Property. - reviewed the 5 design ideas from the workgroup meetings. Most of the 5 (included in board packet) included retail, medical office, restaurant, etc. Consultant will meet with developers to see if we get a match for these designs. Anything that goes before the board will have to go through the regular development process. Proponents who spoke - 14 in favor of retail and 2 in favor of affordable housing. Full circle communities made a presentation as well.

Consultant has been hired to look at Panfish Park to see what needs to be done there and what improvements need to be made. General consensus of Panfish residents was that they want it to remain a passive park.

Staff is working on budget - first presentations will be made to the village board in October. Recommend the EC to ask for anything for FY22-23 budget in next meeting.

US Bank building - there is interest in the part of the village, also interest from a developer, conversation about whether it should be used as a park (slightly over 1 acre) - primarily would use ARPA funds to finance if the Village is to acquire it.

Asks the EC to submit village issues on "See Click Fix" in particular dead or dying parkway trees.

VI. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON REPORT – Chris Gutman provided the Park District Liaison report. Go Green and Park District Sport Swap was bigger and better than previous. Raised

nearly \$700 for park district scholarship funds, positive community response, and lots of equipment leftover to donate to area organizations.

GEPD are working on retrofitting dark sky compliant lighting at Ackerman. They are also testing a bio-acoustic bird monitor at Churchill that was grant funded.

Native Tree and Shrub Sale ordering - asks for volunteers from EC and the Eco Club to help with unloading the truck on 9/30 and 10/1

VII. STAFF LIAISON'S REPORT – John Hubsy provided the village staff liaison report. Trees have been put in on main, larger parkway trees but should be healthier with silva cells. South Park water main project moving along at Park and Taft. Lorraine Windsor Sawyer Chesterfield project moving along.

August 20-28, the village is promoting bio-blitz volunteer pollinator identification as an extension of the monarch pledge. Reorganization at PW - streets and forest superintendent will now be split. Some talk with CRTI about the tree ordinance - will look at our ordinance to see what it would take to get to "gold" level - initial meeting is end of this month - also will be looking into possible grant money. Conversations with NEMIC about electric aggregation began today as the village is looking into it.

Commissioner Daly asks about GEMS of Glen Ellyn trees PDF doc online and who completed this originally. **Trustee Christiansen will ask the historic preservation commission if they worked on it as something we (the EC) could update.**

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairwoman Truitt announces that Joe Gadomsky will be approved as a new commissioner at the Village Board meeting on August 22 and Ben English has been appointed as student commissioner.

IX. DARK SKIES PROPOSAL

Trustee Swanson shared his recommendations on adjusting the village design code to include dark sky compliant language for outdoor lighting for commercial buildings. **He asked commissioners to review and provide suggestions by email to him prior to the next meeting.** Commissioner Casazza stated she provided a short suggestion already by email.

Commissioner Truitt asks if there is any differentiation for different areas/where more light is needed. Swanson adds that we could address this by including language around motion detectors and timers.

Commissioner Swanson states the next step is to present the updated design guidelines to the Village board. Drafting or requesting a dark sky ordinance would be a secondary step. Trustee Christiansen recommends running the guidelines by the architectural appearance committee. Truitt asks about homeowners - Swanson recommends to work on this aspect last and start with new construction.

Commissioner Swanson also asked Assistant Director Hubsy to circulate materials about rising heat forecasts over the next 20-30 years. Increasing canopy around the entire village will be important

X. UPDATES ON FALL INITIATIVES

Student Commissioner English asks when the next recycling extravaganza will be - discussion on doing a smaller event in Oct/Jan for styrofoam and battery recycling.

Commissioner Casazza volunteers to call Dart and Flatcan to ask about one off recycling.

Commissioner Casazza asks about any budget available for the Oaktoberfest event. Commissioner Truitt asks if there are specific items to submit and she and John can review and approve. Other potential budget items include Conservation Foundation co-sponsorship \$500, One Earth Film Festival, For CRTI Hubsky indicates that the village would sponsor the grant. EC budget is \$10,000.

XI. Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. Commissioner Kwiatkowski motions and Commissioner Umlaf seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm.

**Submitted by Commissioner Casazza and
reviewed by Liaison Hubsky.**



Community Solar

Glen Ellyn Environmental Committee

September 20th, 2022



NIMEC

- Work with over 120 municipalities in Illinois
- Municipal Aggregation expires in October
 - 100% green energy
- Worked with Glen Ellyn since 2002 in purchasing electricity at lower prices.
 - Saving over 50% currently



Community Solar

- Program for residents and small businesses
- Backed by state of Illinois to promote green
- Guarantees 20% savings of supply portion of electric bill
- No solar panel installation needed



Proposal

- Inform residents of new program with Glen Ellyn logo
 - Postcard, website, newsletter
 - No charge to Glen Ellyn
 - Opt-In program
- \$100 to municipality

Support Solar - Save Money

Support solar development in Illinois and receive guaranteed savings with Illinois' largest municipally sponsored Community Solar program.

Learn more at <http://www.northfieldil.org/communitysolar>



Join the Largest IL Residential Community Solar Program and Save!

The Village of Northfield is joining other Illinois communities that have partnered with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to offer Community Solar Subscriptions for their residents and small business owners on a first-come, first-served basis. The Community Solar Subscription program will provide the subscriber with a guaranteed 20% savings of the net metering energy credits on their ComEd bills after paying MC Squared Energy Services for their monthly subscription fee.

Community Solar Benefits:



Support renewable energy development throughout northern Illinois



No change in your utility company



No solar panels at your home or upfront investment



Local economic development, job training, and a lower carbon footprint for Illinois

Program Benefits:



Substantial net metering credits on your monthly electricity bill



No credit check, simple automated payment process



Fair and transparent subscription terms negotiated by local governments



Professional program management by MC Squared Energy Services

Learn more about the program by contacting our program administrator MC Squared Energy Services:

Web: <http://www.northfieldil.org/communitysolar>

Email: solar@mc2energyservices.com

Call: 833-970-3552



Village of Northfield
361 Happ Road
Northfield, IL 60093

The Village of
Northfield

First Class Mail
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Permit No. 173



Next Steps

- No availability due to popularity
- 2 Suppliers
 - MC2- Sponsored by Mayor's Caucus
 - Solstice- Running 10+ programs in IL
- First come, first serve basis

Proposed revisions by the Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission:

- 2.2 The design of light fixtures should ~~complement~~ **complement** the architecture and function of the principal building.
- 2.2.1 ~~Wall-mounted~~ **All light** fixtures, **including wall-mounted fixtures and free-standing fixtures**, should not directly allow light projection to the sky. **All lamps and fixtures should be certified as dark sky compliant by the International Dark Sky Association or otherwise designated as dark sky compliant by the manufacturer.**
- 2.2.2 ~~The design of free-standing~~ **All** light fixtures, in addition to meeting the standards of the Zoning Code, should consider the appropriate color, texture and or material for the base and avoid glare. More decorative light fixtures may be used where appropriate to relate to the architectural character of the project, **but should incorporate dark sky principles as set forth in these guidelines.**
- 2.2.3 The color of light on a site should be consistent throughout. ~~Typically, metal halide sources are used for commercial developments for their more accurate color rendition. In downtown and Stacy's Corners area, the thematic fixtures should utilize sodium vapor.~~ **All lamps should utilize Light-Emitting Diode (LED) technology, and the Kelvin for lamps on a site should be consistent throughout. All lights should not have Kelvin greater than 3000 Kelvin, and the Village recommends not greater than 2700 Kelvin.**
- 2.2.4 **The brightness of the lamp light on site should be consistent throughout. All lamps should utilize LED technology, and the brightness level for each lamp should not exceed 850 Lumens.**

2.2.5 Other measures should be used to prevent light from being directed into the night sky. Such measures include (1) the use of motion-activated lighting, (2) the use of eaves or overhangs to reduce light into the night sky, and (3) the use of timers.

Appendix C References

Add the following:

“Artificial Light at Night: State of the Science 2022,” International Dark Sky Association (2022), <https://www.darksky.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/SOTS-post-final-version-220527.pdf>

**GLEN ELLYN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
RESOLUTION 22-01**

A RESOLUTION PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR LIGHTING PRACTICES

WHEREAS, the mission of the Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission (“Commission”) is to study and review strategies to protect public health, safety, and welfare; to undertake to preserve natural resources; and disseminate technical information to the Village Board of Trustees relative to the environment and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the Village adopted the Glen Ellyn Appearance Review Guidelines (“Guidelines”) to promote a harmonious architectural and landscape design for commercial buildings within the Village, including outdoor lighting recommendations to reduce glare at nighttime; and

WHEREAS, the Guidelines were adopted prior to the widespread use of the light-emitting diode (LED), a lighting technology that is up to 80% more efficient than other types of lighting technology; and

WHEREAS, since the adoption of the Guidelines in 2006, the scientific study of artificial light at night has advanced considerably. Such scientific study includes findings that excessive artificial light at night has a negative impact on both human health and the welfare of wildlife, including bird migration and nighttime pollinators; and

WHEREAS, the need for outdoor light at night can be appropriately met by considering the purpose of the light, targeting appropriately to that purpose, using the correct illumination level, limiting the duration of its use to legitimate need, and choosing lights that emit lower amounts of harmful blue light into the nighttime environment; and

WHEREAS, in June 2022, the Glen Ellyn Park District determined that sustainable lighting practices benefit the Village, as set forth in Glen Ellyn Park District Resolution 22-02; and

WHEREAS, adherence to the recommendations of the International Dark Sky Association to reduce light pollution (1) conserve energy and public funds, (2) promote human health; and (3) minimize negative impacts on wildlife.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission, as follows:

Section 1. The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein and made part of this Resolution as though fully set forth herein.

Section 2. The Commission recommends that the Village revise the Glen Ellyn Appearance Review Guidelines consistent with the proposed amendments attached hereto.

Adopted by roll call vote this 20th day, September 2022, by the Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission, as follows:

Roll call:

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Abstention: _____

Absent: _____

Chair
Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission

Attest:

Secretary
Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission