



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Community Relations
Regular Meeting
December 1, 2022
7:06PM

Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 306

Board or Commission: Community Relations
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: No

Date: December 1, 2022
Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:40 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Sania Irwin	Chairman	Present
Mir Ali	Commissioner	Absent
Bill Enright	Commissioner	Present
Tauya Forst	Commissioner	Present
Michelle Roman-Garcia	Commissioner	Absent
Kim Thomas	Commissioner	Present
Sumaiya Syed	Student Commissioner	Absent
Also Present:		
Grant Paplauskas	Communications Coordinator	Present
Kelli Christiansen	Trustee Liaison	Present
Dave McDonald	Park District Liaison	Absent
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	Present
Dawn Bussey	Library Executive Director	Present
Public Present:		
Patrick Van Tiem	86 S. Parkside	

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The **December 1, 2022** regular meeting of the Community Relations Commission was called to order by Chairman Irwin at **7:00 PM** at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 10, 2022 – Deferred to next month.

DEFER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 10, 2022, COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING TO NEXT MONTH WHEN QUORUM IS PRESENT

MOTION BY: Commissioner

SECONDED BY: Commissioner

RESULT: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

C. COMMISSION LIAISON INTRODUCTIONS/REPORTS

1. *Trustee Report* – Trustee Christiansen reports the Village Board signed an agreement to turn the Glen Ellyn Fire Company into a Fire Department. They will hire a full-time fire chief. This change will not affect the day to day operations. The owners of Santé Fe and Rue will be opening up a new restaurant called 504 Kitchen. This restaurant will serve breakfast, lunch and dinner. The plan is to open in February. The Village Board passed an \$82 million operating budget with a 4.9% tax levy.

2. *Park District Liaison Report* – Park District Liaison reports Frozen Fest will take place on January 14 at the Polar Plaza. In January we will also have enrollment for seniors for free tax-aid service through AARP. The program playbook is now online.

3. *Library Liaison Report* – Director Bussey reports we had our code of conduct reviewed by our attorney in reference to the Halloween event incident. We have planned training on December 13 on resilience and de-escalation. The DEI committee will meet next Monday and our policy will go before the board for approval. We will also be kicking off our Be Kind campaign. Staff Liaison Paplauskas states he is on the GE Mental Health taskforce, perhaps the Be Kind campaign can be rolled out to this group as well. He states he will share the information with Director Bussey. Director Bussey states the library applied for the 2025 Human Migration Exhibit. We should hear back in February.

4. *Staff Report* - Communications Coordinator Paplauskas reports all of the metered parking has been covered until New Year's Day to bring shoppers to the downtown. The Park District is having the holiday lights recycle program again this year.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Patrick Van Tiem resident of 86 S. Parkside shares his concerns with the hotel property on Roosevelt Road. He states he has attended a majority of the Ad Hoc committee meetings. His concerns are the site is zoned as a commercial site. If attainable housing is added instead of commercial businesses, there will be decreased tax revenue, a financial burden on D89 schools with the loss of the tax

revenue, and finally a safety concern for the residents given it is a very busy area. Commissioner Forst states while it is a busy area, that is the right area for attainable housing because it is near transportation and it has all the essentials for every area of life right there. Trustee Christiansen states there is a packet online that outlines the 5 recommendations that were presented. Please review it. Pat adds I understand what you are saying however my taxes have gone up 30%, I need to be able to afford my home too; with the loss of tax revenue, my taxes quite possible could go up again. I also wonder why affordable and attainable housing was not considered for the properties on the north side of Glen Ellyn (i.e.: Apex, U.S. Bank site). Commissioner Enright adds we were late with Apex. Trustee Christiansen adds the village board voted 4-2 in favor of a park. Commissioner Enright adds with the hotel property there was nothing happening with it unless the village stepped in. Chairman Irwin thanks Pat for attending this evening

E. COMMISSION ACTION DISCUSSION

1. Position on Attainable Housing – Chairman Irwin thanks Commissioners Thomas and Forst for putting together the *Glen Ellyn Community Relations Commissioner Position of support for Roosevelt and Taft Avenue properties for Attainable and Inclusive Housing Statement*. She asks the commission if they would like to add anything additional to the draft. Irwin adds the point of our position is can we make the housing attainable for the people who work and live in Glen Ellyn. It is important for this commission to provide an overall position and at times be specific when an opportunity becomes available such as the hotel property. She asks the CRC if they are in support of the position as outlined in the draft. Commissioners Forst, Thomas and Enright are in favor of the position. Staff Liaison Paplauskas states he will send an email out to the rest of the commissioners for an email vote. Once the vote is final, the next step would be for a commission member to present this position at the village board meeting. Chairman Irwin and Commissioners Enright, Forst, and Thomas state they will attend the meeting.

2. Program Planning – The CRC discusses holding two events a year. Commissioner Forst adds we can also support initiatives that are already out there. For example COD hosts a MLK celebration. We could see if we could have a speaking opportunity at this event. If we can identify opportunities that are out there like this, it will increase our visibility. We want to partner and let the community know we are looking to partner with these various organizations to promote DEI. Director Bussey adds on January 18 we have our One Community Stories. The CRC can attend and make a statement about the commission and what you do.

F. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING DATE

Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.
The next meeting – January 12, 2023.

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Grant Paplauskas, Staff Liaison