Agenda
Village of Glen Ellyn
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 28, 2023
7:00 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 306

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 Environmental Commission, and shall refrain from abusive demeanor and language. Commissioners are not obligated to respond to questions.

A. Call to Order

B. Public Comment

C. Minutes Approval - January 31, 2023 Draft

1) Minutes Approval

D. Liaison Reports

1) Liaison Reports

E. Initiatives Discussion from January Strategic Planning Exercise

1) Initiatives Discussion

F. Ongoing Initiatives

1) Ongoing Initiatives

G. Commissioner Updates

1) Various updates by Commissioners

H. Adjournment

1) Adjournment - Next Meeting March 21, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

January 31, 2023

Board or Commission:	Environmental	**Date:**	January 31, 2023
Meeting:	Special	**Called to Order:**	7:00 p.m.
Quorum:	Yes	**Adjourned:**	9:21 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Christie Truitt	Chairman	Present
Jeff D. Abeln	Commissioner	Present
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
Karin Daly	Commissioner	Present
Joe Gadomski	Commissioner	Absent
Barbara Kwiatkowsky	Commissioner	Absent
Steve Swanson	Commissioner	Present
Jennifer E. Umlauf	Commissioner	Present
Ben English	Student Commissioner	Present
Also Present:		
John Hubsky	Assistant Public Works Director	
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	
Kelli Christiansen	Village Trustee	
Emily Rodman	Assistant Village Manager	
PUBLIC		
William Weicher	241 Travers Ave, Glen Ellyn	
Billy Joe Mills	611 Maiden Lane, Glen Ellyn	

I. CALL TO ORDER

The January 31, 2023 Special Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairperson Truitt at 7:00 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. *Special Guest – Hen Ellyn* – William Weicher and Billy Joe Mills, residents of Glen Ellyn, state we propose presenting this amended ordinance to the Board of Trustees to allow Glen Ellyn residents to keep hens in their backyards. The local and national trend is toward legalizing residential hen keeping. DuPage County recently legalized hen keeping in unincorporated areas. Lisle and Lombard passed hen keeping protections this year, as well. The surrounding communities of Naperville, Darien, Downers Grove, Batavia, Burr Ridge, St. Charles, Westmont, Bensenville, Wayne, Warrenville, Villa Park, and Bartlett all allow hen keeping in varying forms. The

benefits to hen keeping are:
•Fresh eggs
•Benefits the environment - Every calorie of food and protein that we can produce on our own land saves pollution expended in the transportation of eggs to our plates.
•Property rights - Hen keeping and growing food are essential property rights. The most fundamental use of land is to produce food for human consumption and survival.
•Health benefits of organic, free range
•Animal welfare
•Hens eat ticks and other bugs
•Food security
•A natural fertilizer
•Fun – getting kids outside and learning about the life cycle is important.
The EC reviews the ordinance. Chairperson Truitt asks if there were any major constraints the other communities object to. Mills states no, Lombard and Lisle has been hen keeping for 2 years, Naperville for over a decade and Chicago and Oak Park has been hen keeping for decades. Assistant Village Manager Rodman adds setbacks are a concern for residents. Trustee Christiansen adds there are also concerns this could draw more wildlife. The EC thanks Weichert and Mills for the information.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 13, 2022 MEETING –

1. Commissioner Umlauf motions to approve the minutes; Commissioner Daly seconds the motion.

MOVE TO APPROVAL MINUTES FROM 12/15/2022 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING
RESULT: Motion unanimously carried
MOVER: Commissioner Umlauf
SECONDER: Commissioner Daly

IV. LIAISON REPORTS

A. Trustee Liaison Report: Trustee Christiansen reports the Village Board is still reviewing the Comprehensive Plan. Trustee Christiansen states she has volunteered to edit the document and the goal is to complete by the end of February for approval by the Village Board in March. The Roosevelt Road site proposals are still being reviewed. The streetscape project will start on the north side of the tracks in March. The Glenwood Station project is moving along. The developers have begun pulling permits. The former restaurant Rue, on the corner of Crescent, is becoming 504 Kitchen and is scheduled to open in February or March. They will be serving breakfast and lunch.
Commissioner Casazza asks if the EC's suggestions on the Comprehensive Plan have been added. Assistant Village Manager Rodman states the higher level concepts have been added.

B. Staff Liaison Report – Staff Liaison Hubsky reports due to the streetscape project, special events will have new locations either at COD or Ackerman Park. The Main

Street events will be set up on the south. The GWA has achieved net neutrality. The EBRT will be on an upcoming Village Board workshop. I will let the commission know when it is.

C. Park District Liaison Report - Staff Liaison Hubsky reports the Park District is still working on clearing the buckthorn at Churchill. Lake Ellyn is a candidate for a study by the University of Wisconsin on the decline of Oak trees. The Park District collected 3,483 lbs. of holiday lights.

V. STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP – Assistant Village Manager Rodman states the purpose of this workshop is to identify the priorities that the commission would like to work on this year. Once the priorities have been identified, the commission will then develop action steps on how this will be achieved. Once action steps are completed the EC will bring them before the Village Board for approval. Assistant Village Manager Rodman sets up a prioritization exercise to help guide the process. She asks the commission to think about what are the top 3 items each commissioner would like to work on in the coming year. The initial prioritization list includes: climate reliance plan, increase recycling measures, suggest legislative changes (dark skies), green report card, compost (landfill reduction), tree ordinance, educate and engage community, heat resilience plan, leaf blowers, anti-idling, village wide Styrofoam ban, expand biking & walking routes, downtown recycling, rebuild tree canopy, recruit commissioners, build and promote good examples (gardens), give residents actionable ties to support the planet.
The EC reviews the list and decides on the top 4 categories to prioritize for next year.
1. Landfill Reduction (compost, Styrofoam ban, reduce landfill, recycling).
2. Educate & Motivate (green report card, educate and engage residents on planet support, recruit commissioners, build & promote good examples).
3. Emission Reduction (gas powered leaf blower ban, anti-idling, dark skies, expand biking & walking routes).
4. Resilient Landscapes (tree ordinance, rebuild canopy, heat resilience)

Each commissioner then selected their top 3 priorities. Commissioners Gadomski and Kwiatkowsky, absent from tonight's meeting, will have an opportunity to cast their vote on their top 3 priorities. Once completed, Assistant Manager Rodman and Staff Liaison Hubsky will create a summary report on the priorities and will share it with the EC and the Village Board. The next steps are once priorities are finalized, the EC will develop action items. Assistant Manager Rodman recommends checking in with the Village Board once the EC has established the action steps so the board can provide further direction and guidance.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. April Recycling Extravaganza – Chairperson Truitt reports vendors are confirmed for the recycling event on April 29. There is a grant that will allow free paint recycling. We will not be doing paper shredding for this event. Florescent Bulbs – The vendor will not be able to attend the event. They will charge $70 to pick up the light bulbs. There is a charge to recycle each bulb – 30 cents/bulb. The EC will have to collect the money. Last year we collected $670 and 1,607 bulbs.

The recycling mini events will be held in the summer, fall and January 2024.

B. Commissioner Updates – Commissioner Casazza reports the Illinois House is expected to introduce a bill banning Styrofoam at all restaurants in Illinois. They are exploring true reusable containers.

Commissioner Swanson reports Wheaton has passed a Dark Sky ordinance and it is requiring all new construction to be Dark Sky compliant.

Commissioner Casazza asks the EC if they would be interested in touring Groot. Grout recently installed new robotic arms. The tour can accommodate up to 10 people. The EC is interested in taking the tour.

VII. Next Meeting & Adjournment

A. Commissioner Swanson motions and Commissioner Abeln seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:21 pm.

The next EC meeting – February 28, 2023

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Hubsky

Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission
535 Duane Street
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Meeting 2/28/2023 7:00 PM
Department: Public Works
Department Head:
Category: Discussion Item
Prepared By:

AGENDA ITEM (ID # 2023-235) **DOC ID: 2023-235**

Liaison Reports

Statement of the Issue:

1. Park District Report
2. Trustee Report
3. Staff Report

Analysis:

Budget Impact:

Contribution to Strategic Plan (if applicable)

Action Requested:

Attachments:

Environmental Commission

2023 Prioritization Summary Report

February 5, 2023

Executive Summary

In January 2023, the Environmental Commission (EC) engaged in a facilitated exercise, identifying key priorities to guide their work moving forward. Seven of the nine Commissioners participated in the exercise with an eighth Commissioner providing input on her priorities after the exercise concluded. The Village Board liaison and Village staff liaison were also present at the exercise, although they did not actively participate.

Participants presented 21 suggestions for key areas of focus for the Commission moving forward. These suggestions generally fell within four categories identified by the participants, which they ranked in order priority as follows:

1) [Cultivate] Resilient Landscapes
2) Landfill [Waste] Reduction
3) Educate and Motivate
4) Emission Reduction

The Process

Village staff engaged the Commission using a well-known facilitation process called the "Technology of Participation" (TOPs) method. Participants were asked to consider what areas they feel the Commission should focus on in the coming year. Each participant was asked to present in writing three suggestions in response to the question posed. Once completed, all suggestions were read aloud and posted for the group to review.

The participants were then directed to group like-minded suggestions in categories. After much discussion, the participants identified four distinct categories of focus. The participants were then asked to create a title for each category and finally, to individually rank the four categories in order of priority (1st, 2nd, 3rd) based on their personal perspective. The results of the exercise are compiled into this report.

Suggestions

Participants identified 21 suggested areas of focus and categorized the suggestions into four primary areas. Each suggestion is listed individually within its identified category, even if duplicated:

[Cultivate] Resilient Landscapes

- Tree ordinance
- Tree ordinance
- Tree canopy and sustainable landscapes
- Heat resilience
- Climate resilience plan

Landfill [Waste] Reduction

- Compost (landfill reduction)
- Reduce landfill waste
- Increase recycling measures
- Downtown recycling
- Village-wide styrofoam ban (restaurant food containers)

Educate & Motivate

- Green report card
- Give residents actionable tips to support the planet
- Educate and engage the community
- Recruit [new] commissioners
- Build and promote good examples
- Suggest local legislative changes

Reduce Emissions

- Anti-idling
- Gas powered leaf blower partial ban
- Leaf blowers
- Expand walking and biking routes
- Dark sky (light emissions/pollution)

Prioritization

Each participant was asked to prioritize the four identified categories by designation their 1st priority (green dot), second priority (yellow dot) and third priority (red dot). A summary of the results in included below.

Next Steps

There was strong consensus amongst the participants that the EC should focus its efforts within the categories identified as being most important. This includes identification of projects that can be moved forward during the next year. Collectively, there was also consensus that while many of the topics and projects proposed or brought to this group may be important, with specific members being drawn to

some over others, trying to focus on too many items at one time may be less productive. Education can still be a focus of the group but does not have to be the only productive outlet.

Identifying a Focus

The EC will need to decide how to balance these priorities moving forward. Will the EC focus its time and efforts exclusively on the top priority – Cultivating Resilient Landscapes? Does the EC prefer to pursue both its first and second priorities simultaneously? Should progress be made toward all four priorities to varying degrees? The EC should collectively agree in which areas they will focus their efforts over the coming year.

Articulating Outcomes

Once the EC has identified the areas in which it will focus its efforts, the group should then strive to articulate the outcomes it would like to achieve. What exactly is the EC hoping to accomplish in each of the focus areas? How will the EC know if they have accomplished the desired outcome?

Action Steps

With the focus area and desired outcomes identified, the EC should then develop specific action steps to guide their efforts moving forward. These actions steps should be crafted with the desired outcome in mind and should clearly outline what needs to be accomplished. What needs to be done, by whom and what additional resources may be needed (e.g. staff time, financial resources, partner agencies, etc.). Once these action steps are clearly outlined, the EC may want to then present them to the Village Board to obtain direction on what priorities the Village Board is most interested in pursuing and what resources the Village Board is willing to dedicate toward these efforts.

Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission
535 Duane Street
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Meeting 2/28/2023 7:00 PM
Department: Public Works
Department Head:
Category: Discussion Item
Prepared By:

AGENDA ITEM (ID # 2023-237) **DOC ID: 2023-237**

Ongoing Initiatives

Statement of the Issue:

1. Recycling Extravaganza - April 29
2. Village Spring Newsletter - information due March 10
3. SRTOLL Article for April Publication - due March 3

Analysis:

Budget Impact:

Contribution to Strategic Plan (if applicable)

Action Requested:

Attachments:
1. Recycle Extravaganza Layout Map
2. GE Issue #1 Spring 2022

Early Childhood Center
S Lambert Rd
Shredding
3 unloaders
2-4 Unloaders
Traffic Director
Exit
EC: Polystyrene
EC: Flourescents
Scouts: Flags
Scarce: Books/ Office
GE Food Pantry - Non-perishables
Working Bikes
Habitat: Lumber/ Tools
E-Paint: Latex Paint
Traffic Director
Traffic Director
Traffic Counter
Entrance
Volunteer Parking
College Rd
WDCB 90.9FM
College Of Du Page
Google

ENVIRONMENTAL

INITIATIVES, PROGRAMS & EVENTS

MAINTAINING OUR URBAN FOREST

Glen Ellyn's historic heritage trees are a significant part of our valuable "green infrastructure" and make our community not only more beautiful but also healthier for residens and native wildlife pollinators.

Mature trees offer the greatest potential for sequestering carbon dioxide and reducing air pollutants yet our urban forest canopy continues to be threatened by arbitrary deforestation. Once lost, these valuable resources take over 100 years to replace.

The significant majority of mature trees in Glen Ellyn are on private property. Homeowners can improve the health and wellbeing of our neighborhoods by valuing and preserving these mature trees. Many benefits include:

- Improved air quality including reduction of asthma-provoking pollutants
- Improved stormwater management and reduced flooding
- Improved soil quality
- Support for 300+ types of wildlife, migratory birds, and native pollinators
- Improved household energy efficiency and reduced cooling expenses
- Reduced anxiety and improved mental health and wellness

How old are the trees on your property?
Use this simple formula to find out. Circumference (measured at 4.5' above the ground) ÷ ϖ (3.14) x Growth Factor = Age of the Tree

Growth Factors Rates for Common Trees
2.0: Aspen, Cottonwood
3.0: Silver Maple, Pin Oak, Linden
3.5: River Birch
4.0: American Elm, Green Ash, Red Oak
4.5: Black Walnut, Red Maple
5.0: Sugar Maple, White Birch, White Oak, Black Cherry
7.0: Dogwood, Ironwood, Redbud

GROWING OUR CANOPY

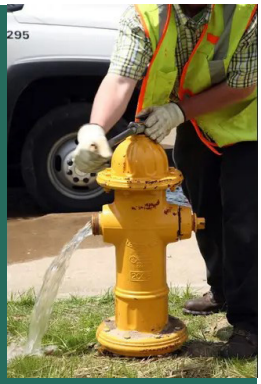
The best year to plant a tree is this one. Make an impact on our urban forest canopy by planting native tree species in small groves.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

The Village of Glen Ellyn and the Glen Ellyn Park District set the example in 2021:

- 300+ trees planted in the Village of Glen Ellyn
- 200 oak saplings given away on Arbor Day by the Park District
- Twice the number of native trees sold at the annual Native Tree and Shrub Sale.
- The Downtown Streetscape project will double the amount of trees within the Central Business District. Visit downtownge.com/trees to learn about the species and selection process.

HYDRANT FLUSHING



The Village is currently undertaking its annual hydrant flushing. Work will span roughly six weeks and will primarily take place from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with some earlier morning flushing performed in high traffic areas. Signs will be placed in the area.

The flushing occurs each year to ensure that hydrants are operational and to also clean out any particulate matter that may have accumulated in the water lines. During, or immediately following hydrant flushing, water discoloration can occur. If you observe discoloration, allow the water to sit in the lines for awhile for particulates to settle back out. Then try running the water again to clear the line.

Please contact the Public Works Department with questions or for more information at (630) 469-6756.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DARKER SKIES

Most of us are familiar with the impacts of pollution on our health and the environment. Air pollution can make it more difficult to breathe and contribute to respiratory problems. Water pollution can render our drinking water unsafe and harm aquatic and plant life. But have you heard of light pollution?

Light pollution - the excessive use of artificial light - can have impacts to human health as well as the environment. On a clear night in Glen Ellyn, you can only see a handful of stars. On cloudy nights, you might even notice "skyglow", where the night sky appears bright from light pollution. Much of the lighting we use at night is too bright, is lit for too long, and is ultimately wasted.

IMPACTS OF LIGHT POLLUTION

1. Wasted Energy - by allowing light to escape up (from exterior light fixtures) and out (from windows), we are spending energy to light areas that don't need it. Energy is wasted.

2. Light pollution affects nocturnal pollinators - which are prevalent in Illinois - and migratory birds by confusing their movement patterns, often resulting in injury or death.

3. Light pollution from common blue light bulbs disrupts our circadian rhythms, making it more difficult for humans to sleep, and negatively impacting the growth patterns of native plants - which in turn reduces food sources for native pollinators.

The Village of Glen Ellyn recently took steps to reduce light pollution in the Central Business District by turning off the upward-facing lights on our downtown streetlamps so they illuminate from the bottom only (light directed down).

Residents can take their own steps to preserve darker skies, save money, improve sleep and protect wildlife by following these tips from the International Dark Sky Association (darksky.org) and using "warm white" bulbs outdoors.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAKING GREENER CHOICES IN YOUR YARD

APRIL 7, 7 PM | VIRTUAL PROGRAM

Purposefully plant for wildlife, make a conservation difference in your own yard, and advance the wildlife gardening movement. Join fellow Glen Ellyn residents who are installing pollinator gardens, opting for native plants, improving water conservation, and adopting organic lawn care. Visit gepl.com to join.

EARTH DAY

APRIL 24, 1-4 PM | LAKE ELLYN

Explore ways nature and health are connected on Earth Day at beautiful Lake Ellyn. Activities include outdoor yoga, wellness walks, boat rentals, scavenger hunts, and other family-friendly activities. The Glen Ellyn Historical Society will also be on hand to give a historical hike.

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

APRIL 29 AT 10:30 AM
WAVERLY/SPRING TRIANGLE

Join the Village of Glen Ellyn for its annual Arbor Day Celebration. Commemorate the 150th anniversary of Arbor Day. A tree will be planted in honor of The Violet Garden Club, which served Glen Ellyn for more than 65 years. The Village will also be planting a tree to honor past Village President Diane McGinley in Panfish Park at a later date. Parking is available on Waverly Road.

RECYCLING EXTRAVAGANZA

APRIL 30 AT 9 AM-1 PM
COLLEGE OF DUPAGE PARKING LOT 6

This annual event provides the opportunity to bring items to be recycled, and kept out of landfills. Residents may recycle batteries, American flags, paint, fluorescent light bulbs, eyeglasses, books, bikes and more. For details please visit glenellyn.org/recycle.

FREE COMPOST PICKUP

MAY 1

Free pickup for all Glen Ellyn Curbside Composting members.

Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission
535 Duane Street
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Meeting 2/28/2023 7:00 PM
Department: Public Works
Department Head:
Category: Discussion Item
Prepared By:

AGENDA ITEM (ID # 2023-238) **DOC ID: 2023-238**

Various updates by Commissioners

Statement of the Issue:

1. Ladybug Release - Budgetary Consideration
2. Commercial Recycling Initiative
3. No Mow May Proposal
4. Biking Event Proposal

Analysis:

Budget Impact:

Contribution to Strategic Plan (if applicable)

Action Requested:

Attachments:
1. Ladybug Giveaway 2023

February 21, 2023

Barbara Kwiatkowsky

Topic: LADYBUG GIVEAWAY

The League of Women Voters of Glen Ellyn (LWVGE) has asked to partner with the Environmental Commission in the Ladybug Giveaway.

Background: The LWVGE has organized this giveaway in the past around Father's Day, and when it was held in Gieche's parking lot it was well attended. Since doing it at the French Market, attendance has been poor. They would like to partner for this event in conjunction with another EC event and get more community involvement/attendance.

Key Benefits of Ladybugs (Hippodamia):

- Kill aphids and spider mites
- Inexpensive compared to chemical pesticides
- Won't harm people, plants or pets
- Protects: Flowers, roses, shrubs, gardens, tree

Time of year: The best time of year for the giveaway is June.

Source: Northwest Beneficials LLC, Bend, Oregon, 541-213-9999, Sales Manager, Chris Morris, cell (541)325-2200; https://www.nwbeneficials.com/

Order: Recommend ordering as soon as possible for June release. The package contains 1/3 of a cup, or approximately 1500 ladybugs. This is typically enough for a garden of up to 2000 sq.ft. The ladybugs can be stored completely dormant for up to one month at 34°-40° temp.

Preparation: They ship on dry ice and must be refrigerated. The day before the event they need to be containerized in small plastic cups with lids and put back in fridge. LWV has expert ladybug wranglers and facilities. Taken out in am and brought to event in large coolers. Paper bags provided to take home, along with an instruction sheet.

Promotion: LWVGE and EC would collaborate on co-branding and promoting the event.

Cost: Based on previous costs, range from $200-$400. The cost would be split between EC and LWV. I'm getting more detailed information from Northwest Beneficials.