

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
**August 22, 2023**

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

**Date:** August 22, 2023  
**Called to Order:** 7:02 p.m.  
**Adjourned:** 8:57 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 Kwiatkowski  | Commissioner                    | Present |
|                      |                                 |         |
|                      |                                 |         |
|                      |                                 |         |
| <b>Also Present:</b> |                                 |         |
| John Hubsy           | Assistant Public Works Director |         |
| Chris Gutman         | Glen Ellyn Park District        |         |
| Elisa Pollina        | Recording Secretary             |         |
|                      |                                 |         |
| <b>PUBLIC</b>        |                                 |         |
| Jamie Carr           | 530 Glendale Avenue             |         |
| Mark Frigo           | 374 Hawthorne Blvd              |         |

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The August 22, 2023 meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairperson Truitt at 7:02 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

- II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Mark Frigo, a Glen Ellyn resident, shares that his wife, Rene Frigo, has encouraged him to become involved in this commission. His background is in the energy sector. After reviewing the Comprehensive Plan, he's interested to understand the plan's next steps. John Hubsy responds, mentioning that the Comprehensive Plan is on the Village Board agenda and is scheduled to be reviewed by the board in the upcoming weeks. Next, Jamie Carr, also a Glen Ellyn resident and a consultant for Eco Achievers, expresses interest in the progress of the sustainability plan. He is interested in serving as a resource for this commission.

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 20, 2023 MEETING –

MOVE TO APPROVAL MINUTES FROM 6/20/2023 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Kwiatkowski

SECONDER: Commissioner Daly

### IV. LIAISON REPORTS

A. Trustee Liaison Report: No report

B. Staff Liaison Report – Staff Liaison Hubsy provides an update on the CBD Streetscape project. This project will span a few years but is currently running slightly ahead of schedule. The surface on Pennsylvania Avenue will not be completed before winter; rather, it will be installed in the spring.

Regarding the Train Station Project, reverse engineering has been carried out to find cost-saving measures.

Additionally, the team is finalizing internal discussions for next year's budget. We are also working on snow removal plans. We are exploring the use of a liquid solution on road surfaces before snowstorms as a pre-treatment measure to aid in snow removal. This method involves significant upfront equipment costs. Commissioner Casazza inquires about the composition of the liquid, to which Hubsy explains that it is primarily a brine solution. This approach helps reduce salt usage in snow removal operations.

C. Chairperson Report – No report

### V. OLD BUSINESS

#### 1. Strategic Planning Priorities

*Waste* - Chairperson Truitt reports on the waste management initiatives, highlighting the success of an incentive program aimed at promoting composting. The village extended this incentive to the first 50 residents who signed up, and all 50 spots were filled. The compost pickup service will be handled by Groot. Chairperson Truitt thanks Commissioner Daly for her efforts in marketing this program.

*Updating Website Resources for Recycling* – Commissioner Casazza informs the group that she is still working on this and will defer to next month for a complete update.

*CBD Cardboard Recycling Update* – Commissioner Kwiatkowski reports she and Commissioner Casazza met with the bookstore owner to explore potential locations for placing a dumpster dedicated to collecting cardboard. Additionally, Liaison Hubsy discussed the necessity of constructing a fenced enclosure wherever the dumpster is situated. Given the challenges encountered in identifying a suitable location, it is recommended to postpone the pilot program temporarily. During this period, they will work with the village to secure a more appropriate location for the

dumpster. Hubsky states that there isn't a readily available public space for the dumpster, suggesting that the placement of the dumpster and enclosure would need to occur on private property. Chairperson Truitt agrees to explore options for locating a suitable spot for the dumpster. Hubsky states if a public space is identified he will evaluate the space and present it to the village board.

*Sustainable Landscape Certification* – Chairperson Truitt spoke with Jim at the Conservation Foundation and he visited over 30 yards, however many of them were just starting out; he certified 7 yards.

*Aluminum Recycling at the Taste of Glen Ellyn – Summary* - Commissioner Casazza reports the event was well attended and had 4,000 people in attendance on Saturday alone. To facilitate can recycling, there were seven totes and bins available, each clearly labeled for collecting cans. To facilitate can recycling, there were seven totes and bins available, each clearly labeled for collecting cans. These signs were largely effective. In terms of results, 160 lbs. of cans were collected on Friday and 200 lbs. on Saturday, totaling 360 lbs. of cans, equivalent to approximately 11,500 cans. This is over a time period of essentially 20 hours - 5 Thursday, 5 Friday, and 10 Saturday - so it was worth the effort for the short time period. The cans were picked up by the vendor on both Saturday and Monday. We had the support of approximately six volunteers who assisted as needed. Commissioner Daly adds that we received numerous positive comments about the recycling efforts. She also suggests the possibility of incorporating recycling into the special event permit. In response, Hubsky mentions that if the EC would like to compile the event learnings on recycling, he can present it. Chairperson Truitt states we will work on putting together a proposal for this initiative.

### ***Fall Events***

Tree & Plant Sale – Chairperson Truitt asks Park District Liaison Gutman to let the EC know if they need any volunteers to assist with this event

Oaktober Fest – October 14 1:00-4:00 at Mary Knoll Park – Chairperson Truitt states this is part of the overall Oaktober initiative started last year, sponsored by the EC, Go Green Glen Ellyn and the Village. Go Green Glen Ellyn are working with the Park District on the Oaktoberfest event. The EC is interested in having a tree walk. Commissioner Casazza states there will be about 20 different organizations taking part in the event with various other activities. Chairperson Truitt states last year we sponsored the music for the event. Most of our budget has been used for our summer initiatives. Commissioner Casazza states School of Rock is \$250.00 and Scarce crafts cost will be \$250.00. If the EC could sponsor any of these that would be helpful.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski motions to approve \$500.00 for Oaktober Fest Event (\$250.00 for School of Rock and \$250.00 for Scarce). Commissioner Abeln seconds the motion.

MOVE TO APPROVAL \$500 for OAKTOBER FEST EVENT

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Kwiatkowski

SECONDER: Commissioner Abeln

AYES – Truitt, Kwiatkowski, Casazza, Abeln, Daly

**Sustainability Plan Scoping Session Recap** – Chairman Truitt, Commissioner Kwiatkowski, Manager Franz and Staff Liaison Hubsky held a meeting with Pale Blue Dot, during which the company presented a proposal outlining a year-long plan for handling baseline data and establishing goals and actionable plans to integrate into departmental planning. Their proposal includes the capability to gather baseline data on climate assessment, greenhouse gas emissions, building data, energy usage, tree canopy assessment, and heat island analysis. This proposal comes at half the cost of the initial estimate. Chairman Truitt seeks input from the Environmental Commission regarding the most important focus areas.

Commissioner Kwiatkowski states the village should have long term goals with long term plans. The data we receive will drive the goals and plans. I would focus on greenhouse gas.

Commissioner Abeln states renewable energy and tree canopy.

Commissioner Casazza states vulnerability assessment and climate hazards.

Hubsky states Pale Blue Dot said they can take any existing data we already have and incorporate it into the baselines.

Commissioner Daly states there is a lack of awareness with our vulnerability. We need to have more resilience. Even if this plan wakes people up. We need to make decisions based on our climate reality. We need data and plans on emissions-how we can create urban planning to reduce heat islands.

Staff Liaison Hubsky states the Village Manager is willing to add \$20,000 to the budget to get the bid for the baseline data. This is a step forward to get the information needed. Once the data is received the commission can then go to the board with the sustainability plan and the areas you want to work on for approval.

Commissioners Kwiatkowski, Abeln, Casazza and Daly are in support of getting the baseline data.

Staff Liaison Hubsky states he will let the Village Manager know to go forward with earmarking \$20,000 to the budget.

The budget will get approved before the end of the year and will be available January 1, 2024.

## **VII Next Meeting & Adjournment**

- A. Commissioner Daly motions and Commissioner Kwiatkowski seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

The next EC meeting – September 19, 2023

**Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary**

**Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Hubsy**