Agenda
Village of Glen Ellyn
Environmental Commission Special Meeting
Tuesday, February 6, 2024
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. Approval of Minutes

1) Approval of Jan. 9 Meeting Minutes

D. Reports

1) Park District Liaison Report
2) Trustee Liaison Report
3) Staff Liaison Report
4) Chair Report

E. Old Business

1) Strategic Planning Priorities
2) Sustainability/Scorecard Plan

F. New Business

G. Adjourn

1) Next Meeting March 12, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

January 9, 2024

Board or Commission:	Environmental	**Date:**	January 9, 2024
Meeting:	Special	**Called to Order:**	7:10 p.m.
Quorum:	Yes	**Adjourned:**	9:12 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE: **Present/Absent**

Christy Truitt	Chair	Present
Jeff Abeln	Commissioner	Present
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
Karin Daly	Commissioner	Absent
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowsky	Commissioner	Present
Vacant	Commissioner	
Vacant	Commissioner	
Vacant	Commissioner	
Olivia	Student Commissioner	Absent
Matilda	Student Commissioner	Absent
Also Present:		
John Hubsky	Assistant Public Works Director	
Gary Fasules	Village Trustee	
Sabrina Irizarry	Village Management Analyst	
PUBLIC		
None		

I. CALL TO ORDER

The January 9, 2024 regular meeting of the Environmental Commission (EC) was called to order by Chair Truitt at 7:10 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

No public participation.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS –

Sabrina Irizarry was introduced to the EC. Sabrina is the new management analyst for the Village. She was in law enforcement early in her career and got an MBA from DePaul. Commissioners introduced themselves to Sabrina.

The question was raised whether we can still hold video meetings for commissioners that may be sick. Since Governor Pritzker lifted the COVID emergency order, we can

no longer hold video meetings due to the Open Meetings Act. We could potentially patch people in via telephone, but they would be simply public participants.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 28, 2024 MEETING –

Proposed amendments to the draft minutes:

- Chair Truitt made a few meeting edits that were incorporated.

Commissioner Kwiatkowsky motions and Commissioner Frigo seconds the motion to approve the minutes from November 28, 2024.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 11/28/2023
RESULT: Motion unanimously carried
MOVER: Commissioner Kwiatkowsky
SECONDER: Commissioner Frigo
AYES: # 4 (Commissioner Casazza abstains due to not being at November 28, 2024 meeting)

V. TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT –

Trustee Fasules stated that the budget is now complete.

A question was raised on the Taft property. Trustee Fasules was not able to answer due to ongoing negotiations.

A question was also raised on the status of the new Prairie Path Park. The Village and Park District are still working through items as it relates to the handover of the property and next steps.

VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT –

The Village experienced a large snow event today, which kept Public Works very busy with snow removal. The Village is expecting another large snow event this weekend.

The annual water audit was completed. There was a 10.2% water loss compared to billing, likely driven due to leaks. 10% is the average number that municipalities typically see.

Public Works is looking to remodel the second level of its building on Lambert to make more efficient use of the space, and add security features (key cards, etc.). The EC would like to see sustainability features incorporated during the remodel where possible, such as reuse and recycling of materials, energy saving tools, etc.

VII. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON'S REPORT –

Chris Gutmann provided a report via e-mail. Highlights include:

- Contract clearing of woody invasives has been completed at two areas in Ackerman Woods.
- Woody invasive clearing continued at Churchill Park. Contract clearing of woody invasives is scheduled for the week of January 22nd. Once that's

complete, roughly 2/3 of Churchill's southern woodland and wet meadow will have been cleared of woody invasives.
- All cleared areas were seeded with custom native mixes.
- Staff completed the trail extension at Churchill Park. Work on the new Ackerman Woods trail has begun.
- The District is researching the feasibility of offering plastic bag and tennis ball recycling programs.
- The last day for holiday light recycling is January 21st.

VIII. CHAIR REPORT –

Sustainable Landscaping Awards
The Village Board will recognize 11 homeowners at the 1/22/24 Board meeting - as achieving certification status from The Conservation Foundation. This will serve to be an annual sustainability award.

2024 Recycling Extravaganza
With vendors confirmed, Commissioner Daly can update this year's marketing graphic (including a prompt to "recycle b4 unlimited refuse day" or similar) and send to John Hubsky for posting to village website. John received from Commissioner Daly the proposed static content (which would remain on the village website year round as reference to the recycling extravaganza); he may contact her with minor edits based on feedback from Grant Paplauskas. Commissioner Kwiatkowsky will submit the event permit by 2/1/202. Commissioner Kwiatkowsky suggested that the recycling extravaganza be promoted in parallel with promotion of the unlimited refuse day - with encouragement to recycle all relevant items. Chair Truitt sent an email request to John Hubsky to initiate the conversation. Commissioer Casazza recommended using a quarterly digital newsletter to promote a broader range of recycling resources, timed for early April (in advance of the recycling extravaganza and the unlimited refuse day). John Hubsky recommended pointing to resources on the County site as well. Commissioner Casazza offered to draft the newsletter by early March for review.

Oak Tree Preservation / Maintenance
Chair Truitt reported meeting with Village Forester (Max Brown) and John Hubsky, along with Student Commissioner Olivia to discuss resident education and awareness via one of the quarterly digital newsletters. Per discussion tonight, it was agreed that we would target this for distribution in March (ahead of the Recycling newsletter above). Chair Truitt and Student Commissioner Olivia will collaborate on a draft for late February.

Dark Skies Awareness
Former EC Chair, Adam Kreuzer, shared an opportunity to collaborate with the International Dark Skies Association and other municipalities in promoting dark skies the week of April 2-8, 2024. This would include asking the Village of Glen Ellyn to issue a proclamation that highlights the benefits of dark skies and threats of light pollution, along with encouragement for residents to learn more about adopting dark sky practices. This could include a STROLL article or simply a mention in the Weekly E-News. Chair Truitt will forward the proclamation for EC review.

Code or Ordinance Suggestions
Reminder to send suggestions to Chair Truitt or John Hubsky before February meeting. EV Readiness as an example from Commissioner Daly was a broad category suggestion that we discussed. Other examples include use of permeable pavers, tree ordinance/preservation, and/or urban chicken coops.

EV Readiness Checklist / Spring Cohort
The GRC developed a comprehensive "EV Readiness Checklist" that we can use for self-assessment as a start. It contains a lot so can appear overwhelming, but the goal is to complete a strategic set of items but not every item. If the Village / Board deem this as worthy of investment of time, the GRC will be facilitating a cohort to work through the checklist over the course of 6-12 months (meetings every other week) to work toward completion of Bronze, Silver, or Gold designation. More information on the program here: https://mayorscaucus.org/initiatives/environment/becoming-ev-ready. EC can review the above and we will revisit at the February meeting. Sabrina Irizarry will also review in further detail.

Spring Print Newsletter ("EnviroNews")
For Draft review at February Meeting: Commissioner Casazza will draft a lead article on Plastics; Chair Truitt will draft several sidebars and will ask Commissioner Daly to prepare a summary of recycling stats.

Events
Earth Week Community Film Sponsorship @ The Glen Art - possible promotion of a community event and film on a relevant sustainability topic on 4/21 or 4/22. EC will review list of One Earth films at February meeting and determine whether to be a venue host or to choose another available film. Home Energy Retrofitting Educational Event (or Event Series?) - continued discussion of the idea of developing an event (or series of events) on areas of energy efficiency for homes, possibly in partnership with the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) to reach their target audience of historic/older homes. Chair Truitt will connect with HPC to check their planned events, which may include the historic homewalk in fall, and we can revisit at February meeting. Rather than one event date, a series of educational talks on different aspects of energy retrofitting, may be effective and have opportunity to reach a larger audience.

2023 Environmental Stewardship Report
Discussed working towards publishing a simplified but current report in March/April (in line with the spring print newsletter) and publishing it to the Village website on the Green Initiatives page (which is accessible from the Resident Services page), as well as to the GRC2 page (see list half-way down the page), if appropriate. A subset of this could also be incorporated into the "state of the village" report each spring. And the expectation is that this would become much more robust (and professional) after the sustainability project. Chair Truitt will share an outline as well as supporting detail that can be developed. We will review further at February meeting.

Proposed Scope for 2024 Sustainability Data Gathering Project

We reviewed the proposal from PaleBlueDot (Commissioner Kwiatkowsky shared a summary – See Appendix A), which seems comprehensive and sufficient to supply the data needed to support a subsequent Strategic Sustainability Plan (as evidenced by Skokie's), however, we would like to see how one or several other consultants approached it. For February meeting, Chair Truitt will pursue input from Naperville, and Commissioners Casazza and Frigo will review the list they developed and pursue input from one that they respect. We will compare/contrast and finalize a recommendation to provide to staff as input to the bid process. All commissioners, please spend some time reviewing with Commissioners Casazza and Frigo developed, as a primer on sustainability plans (but the Skokie one referenced above, while for a larger municipality, has an excellent structure). $25K currently in the budget for this exercise.

IX. OLD BUSINESS TOPICS

Notes on discussion integrated into Chair's report above.

X. NEW BUSINESS TOPICS

None.

XI. Next Meeting & Adjournment

A. The next EC meeting – February 6, 2024 (Moved from February 13, 2024).

B. Commissioner Cazzara motions and Commissioner Kwiatkowsky seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Submitted by Mark Frigo, Commissioner

Reviewed by John Hubsky, Staff Liaison

Appendix A

Glen Ellyn Sustainability Plan

Summary of paleBLUEdot proposal submitted August 8,2023.

Scope of work for assessment project

Existing Conditions: Sustainability Baseline Assessment and Strategic Goal Recommendations. The assessment and goal report to include all sectors anticipated for the sustainability plan: Energy Use, Air quality, Land Use, Development and Housing, Transportation, Open Space and Ecosystems, Waste, Recycling, Composting, Water conservation, Stormwater Management, Food Systems, Public Health & Wellness, Equity & Sustainable Economy

Vulnerability Assessment:

- Climate change impacts and risk factors
- Climate Risk factors
- Quantify city vulnerability
- Identification of metrics, indicators and sources : can be drawn from for progress measurements in the final plan.

Greenhouse Gas Modeling: data collection and GHG emissions forecasting for 2030, 2040 and 2050

Renewable energy potentials: study of community wide rooftop, ground mounted, and potential "car port" solar

Community sustainability indicators:

- Baseline building and energy metric
- Baseline energy and housing burden
- Village wide ground cover, tree canopy and carbon sequestration baseline
- Heat island and micro heat island baseline
- Baseline walk score/bike score mapping
- Public transit mapping
- Housing and transit affordability baseline

Deliverables: Sustainability Baseline Assessment and Strategic Goal Recommendations to include indicators and preliminary goal recommendations for all plan sectors; Vulnerability Assessment report, GHG Emissions Forecast, Renewable Energy Potentials report (electronic documents).

Community Online Survey (Optional Service), quoted separately.

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

Meeting 2/6/2024 7:00 PM
Department: Public Works
Department Head:
Category: Discussion Item
Prepared By:

AGENDA ITEM (ID # 2024-76) **DOC ID: 2024-76**

Strategic Planning Priorities

Statement of the Issue:

- Land Stewardship - Cultivate Green Infrastructure and Resilient Landscapes
  - Sustainable Landscaping: 2024 Initiatives
- Waste Stewardship - Reduce Landfill Waste
  - 2024 Recycling Extravaganza
  - Website updates
- Engage - Educate and Motivate
  - 2024 Spring newsletter content
  - Quarterly eNews format content - topics & schedule
  - 2024 Events

Analysis:

Budget Impact:

Contribution to Strategic Plan

Action Requested:

Attachments:

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

Meeting 2/6/2024 7:00 PM
Department: Public Works
Department Head:
Category: Discussion Item
Prepared By:

AGENDA ITEM (ID # 2024-77) **DOC ID: 2024-77**

Sustainability/Scorecard Plan

Statement of the Issue:
Review and discussion of the format for a sustainability scorecard and steps needed to move forward with the project.

Analysis:

Budget Impact:

Contribution to Strategic Plan

Action Requested:

Attachments: