

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MINUTES
May 21, 2024

Board or Commission: Environmental
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: Yes

Date: May 21, 2024
Called to Order: 7:03 p.m.
Adjourned: 9:30 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Present/Absent

Christy Truitt	Chair	Present
Jeff Abeln	Commissioner	Absent
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Absent
Karin Daly	Commissioner	Present
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowski	Commissioner	Present
Vacant	Commissioner	
Vacant	Commissioner	
Vacant	Commissioner	
Olivia	Student Commissioner	Present
Matilda	Student Commissioner	Absent
Also Present:		
John Hubsy	Assistant Public Works Director	
Kelli Christiansen	Village Trustee	
Chris Gutman	Glen Ellyn Park District	
PUBLIC		
None		

I. CALL TO ORDER

The May 21, 2024 regular meeting of the Environmental Commission (EC) was called to order by Chair Truitt at 7:03 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –
None

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS –
None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 16, 2024 MEETING –
Proposed amendments to the draft minutes:

- Commissioner Daly made a few meeting amendments as it relates to the messaging in Stroll Magazine regarding Dark Skies.

Commissioner Frigo motions and Commissioner Daly seconds the motion to approve the minutes from April 16, 2024.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 4/16/24 WITH PROPOSED CHANGES.

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Frigo

SECONDER: Commissioner Daly

AYES: # 4

A joint meeting (“Joint Meeting”) of the Historic Preservation Commission Meeting and Environmental Commission to review the Glen Ellyn Park District’s presentation of U.S. Bank Event Park Concept Plan was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Commission Kwiatkowski motions and Commissioner Daly seconds the motion to approve the minutes (as amended) of the joint meeting.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE JOINT MEETING MINUTES FROM 3/20/24 WITH PROPOSED CHANGES.

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Kwiatkowski

SECONDER: Commissioner Daly

AYES: # 3 (Commissioner Frigo abstained as he did not attend that meeting).

V. TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT –

Highlights from the Trustee Liaison report include the following:

- The Department of Public Works is having an open house next week.
- There has been significant discussion on requirements for outdoor eating. Topics such as platforms, lighting, etc. have been considered.
- The 4th of July parade will be held down at College of DuPage this year along with Taste of Glen Ellyn in August.
- Lawn sprinkling restrictions are in effect.

VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT –

Highlights from the Staff Liaison report include the following:

- Public Works is going forward with a presentation on the brine system for treating streets. They expect general support at the Trustee level.
- Street scape activities are ongoing. Prospect Ave. work is scheduled to happen next. The Glenwood Station development has had some delays.
- Roosevelt Road development is ongoing. Mostly paper and administrative work is being completed on that transaction.

VII. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON'S REPORT –

Highlights from the Park District Liaison report include the following:

- The Park District finished planting plugs along the shoreline walk at Lake Ellyn Park.
- Lake Ellyn was electroshocked to do a fish survey. There is an imbalance with entropic levels. Several large bass exist, but the fish population is imbalanced. The Lake will be stocked to improve balance.
- Lake Ellyn was cleaned up as well, with most of the pollution being plastic.
- 85 3rd graders were out to Churchill Park for programming.
- Park District staff were trained on an injection system to treat trees for non-native pests.
- Johnson Center construction is about complete.

VIII. CHAIR REPORT –

A public meeting is scheduled for next Thursday night (5/30/24) on the new train station. It includes quite a bit of infrastructure. There is tension between tree loss and parking spaces. Is there a better way? Can they look at permeable pavers? Question the need for a new train station. But lots of support exists for an underpass. There was concern on impact on downtown area.

Downtown flower beds are a showcase for native plants. The flower beds by the post office look really nice thanks to the efforts of the volunteers.

It would be interesting partnering with an entity to launch a program for “giving gardens.” These would provide access to produce to give away to the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry, local churches, etc.

Other topics from the Chair report incorporated into the New Business Topics below.

IX. OLD BUSINESS TOPICS

Notes on discussion integrated into various reports above.

X. NEW BUSINESS TOPICS

Sustainability Plan

Q&A was held with the Environmental Commission. The Environmental Commission will look to have some proposals, and work should be able to commence this year. Then the Environmental Commission can see what we can get in terms of scope. June 13 is the due date for proposals. PaleBlueDot, Quercus, and a third party showed up to the Q&A session.

Waste Hauling RFP

Six or seven companies showed up at the pre bid meeting. But only Groot and Flood Brothers provided proposals. Workshop on review of the proposals starts next week with the Village Board and will review again in June. A statement from Environmental Commission should be completed by end of the week. Commissioner Casazza provided questions via e-mail which should be incorporated into the Village Board workshop. Get a defined curbside “what is recyclable and what is compostable.” Compost givebacks → can a refund be given? Chair Truitt to work with Commission Casazza to provide feedback to Village Board by Friday.

Hen Ellyn

Commissioner Kwiatkowski is not supported of the Hen Ellyn plan. The other commissioners present are supportive of the plan.

MOVE TO SUPPORT THE HEN ELLYN PROPOSAL TO THE VILLAGE BOARD (AS PRESENTED).

RESULT: Motion carried

MOVER: Commissioner Daly

SECONDER: Commissioner Frigo

AYES: # 3

NAYS: # 1

Panfish Park Invasives

Invasive buckthorn is prevalent at Panfish Park. Pass on information to John Hubsy and they will pass it on to Village Links to address.

Summer Promotions

The Conservation Foundation rain barrel sale. Can the Glen Ellyn Park District support? According to Mr. Gutman, the answer is yes. Rain barrels should be done next year in Spring 2025.

Compost Giveaway

Compost giveaway and giveback could be weekend in mid-June.

The Conservation Foundation Sustainable Yard Tour

Need to confirm the yard tour which is scheduled for July 27. Just need to find 5-7 homes. A question on potential liability for Village was raised. There is likely no liability to the Village for this event. The Library butterfly garden might be good. Does the Park District have a good site to show? It would be good to have a municipal site. Go Green has offered to help. Perhaps the Garden Club can assist as well?

Recycling Extravaganza

The Recycling Extravaganza got good reviews. Commissioner Daly and Grant from the Village did a good job promoting it. The flyer was great. Commissioner Kwiatkowski presented metrics on amounts recycled, which can be seen below:

RECYCLE EXTRAVAGANZA

Date	Saturday, April 27, 2024	4/29/2023	4/30/2022
Hours	9:00 am - 1:00 pm		
Location	College of DuPage Parking lot 6		
# of cars	647	539	457
Volunteers	10		

Organization	Items collected	Volume Collected	2023	2022
1 Cub Scouts	American Flags	94	46	73
2 SCARCE	Books, school supplies, etc.	94 boxes	126 boxes	155 boxes
	Christmas lights	26 boxes		5 boxes
	instruments	10		
	Smoke Detectors	30	42	74
3 Dart Container	Polystyrene (#6 packaging foam)	298 lbs.	262 lbs	256 lbs
4 Working Bikes	Bikes, helmets, accessories	48	41	33
5 Glen Ellyn Food Pantry	Non-perishable foods	597 lbs.	246 lbs.	353 lbs
6 Lion's Club	Eyeglasses, Hearing Aids			
7 Junk Luggers	Electronics	16,742 lbs.	11,000 lbs	7500 lbs
8 Flat Can Recycling	Latex	919 cans	1245 cans	1042 cans
	Aerosol cans	187 cans	175	239 cans
	batteries	308 lbs.	259 lbs	380 lbs
	textiles	2131 lbs.		
	car seats	6		
	propane	22	13	139 lbs
9 Project Cure	Walkers	25		
	Wheelchairs	15		
	CPAP machines	18		
	Crutches/Canes	40		

Should we think about doing a mini event? Mini event behind the Jewel / Staples on Roosevelt Road may work. Plan for two minis (one with pumpkin smash and one other). By next meeting, the Environmental Commission should propose a location (COD would be best). Alternate the paint contractors. The Environmental Commission would like to request a "Recycling Event" sign to place out front next time.

There seems to be no interest in having a drop off bin for textiles. Can we partner with a private company like Jewel to do this?

Glenbard West Facility Expansion

Chair Truitt and Commissioner Frigo met with Principal Ben Peterselli to discuss the plans to add a new addition to Glenbard West High School off the Northwest corner. This would extend out onto the hill and require the removal of several trees, including at least one very large and old oak, which the Village has been trying to protect. Principal Peterselli mentioned that this effort is very early in the process and that the Environment Commission can work with District 87 as part of the public process to provide input on how to minimize the impact of that construction. Commissioner Frigo reiterated the importance of trying to avoid impacts up to the drip line (edge of the canopy) of a tree that is trying to be saved. More input will be provided by the Environmental Committee as this effort progresses.

Website (Green Initiatives Section)

Commissioner Daly will draft a proposed structure for the Green Initiatives section of the Village website. It will entail reorganizing the framework and dropping in content. Commissioner Daly will send this out to the Environmental Commission for feedback.

Tree Preservation

Focus on preserving and planting new trees. Oak and nut trees have a greater value. Chair Truitt wants to put together a proposal and will present something to the Environmental Commission for consideration at the June meeting. This will include the tree ordinance.

Commissioner Terms

Commissioner Daly and Kwiatkowski's terms are up this year, and they would need to renew (if interested). Notification would need to be by June 15 to get on July Village Board approval.

Electric Vehicle Checklist

This will be reviewed during the June meeting.

XI. Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. The next EC meeting – June 25, 2024. No meeting will be held in July.
- B. Commissioner Frigo motions and Commissioner Kwiatkowski seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Submitted by Mark Frigo, Commissioner

Reviewed by John Hubsy, Staff Liaison