

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

June 25, 2024

Board or Commission: Environmental
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: Yes

Date: June 25, 2024
Called to Order: 7:02 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:31 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Christie Truitt	Chairman	Present
Jeff D. Abeln	Commissioner	Present
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Absent
Karin Daly	Commissioner	Present
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowski	Commissioner	Absent
Olivia	Student Commissioner	Absent
Matilda	Student Commissioner	Absent
Also Present:		
John Hubsy	Assistant Public Works Director	
Kelli Christiansen	Village Trustee Liaison	
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	
PUBLIC		
Kristen Bond	234 Cumnor , Glen Ellyn	
Kathleen Hokensen	Glen Ellyn Resident	

I. CALL TO ORDER

The June 25, 2024 meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairperson Truitt at 7:02 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

- II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Resident Hokensen shared an update, noting that students at Forest Glen School have formed an EC club and are actively engaged in initiatives, particularly focusing on reducing black plastic in the lunchroom. Four students recently presented their initiatives at a D41 school board meeting and received high praise for their efforts. As a result, the district offered to plant two trees, celebrated with a ceremony.
- Additionally, Lincoln School is currently in the process of establishing their own EC club.

Kristen Bond, Consultant for Go Green and a resident of Glen Ellyn, delivers an updated presentation on EV readiness. The presentation included EV readiness

statistics on Illinois Community, Dupage County and Glen Ellyn (see attached presentation). Bond requests the Village of Glen Ellyn include EV readiness and adoption on the village website and has identified navigation pages and is willing to assist and contribute in this effort. Chairperson Truitt mentions she would like to add this topic to the EC's green initiatives and asks Bond to submit content for the EC to review and invited Bond to present the content to the Village Board.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 21, 2024 MEETING –

MOVE TO APPROVAL MINUTES FROM 5/21/2024 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Frigo

SECONDER: Commissioner Daley

IV. LIAISON REPORTS

A. Trustee Liaison Report: Trustee Christiansen provided several updates. The village has approved variances for the annexation of the D41 kindergarten building on Churchill. The Groot waste contract has been extended through 2029, with notable changes including the removal of the compost surcharge for seniors, the allowance of landscape waste in compost bins, and bi-weekly compost pickup during winter months. Overall waste collection rates will see a slight increase. Additionally, the village has hired a new attorney to replace Greg Matthews, who is retiring, and is currently interviewing candidates for the Community Development Director position.

B. Staff Liaison Report – Staff Liaison Hubsby provided an update on the annual salt purchase, noting that the purchase of 1,000 lbs. has been approved. This amount is lower than in previous years due to surplus inventory from last year's mild winter. Additionally, the CBD Streetscape construction has intensified, although equipment issues have caused a four-day delay in the schedule.

C. Park District Liaison Report – No report

D. Chairperson Report – Chairperson Truitt provided several updates. On May 30, sustainable planting was completed along Main Street, with designs by the Conservation Foundation and assistance from ten volunteers. Special thanks to Max for watering during the hot weather and to the Conservation Foundation for their design work.

The compost pickup event saw good attendance, and it is suggested that in future events, people be allowed to take as much compost as they want. Additionally, a representative from the Environmental Commission is not necessary for these events. It would be beneficial to offer these events as frequently as possible, and after 24 hours, allow anyone to stop by and pick up compost. There has been feedback to offer this event in the fall as well.

Registration is now live for the Conservation Foundation Yard Tour on July 27. Chairperson Truitt and Commissioner Casazza have volunteered their yards for the tour. A map will be provided, and it will be a self-guided tour from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. *Sustainability RFP/ Score Card Plan* – The village received three proposals, which were forwarded to the Environmental Commission (EC) for review. The EC thoroughly discussed the submissions from Pale Blue Dot, Quercus, and Olympic. After an extensive discussion where each commissioner shared their preferences, the unanimous choice was Pale Blue Dot. This decision was based on Pale Blue Dot's relevant experience, actionable plans, measurement capabilities, and realistic quoted price.

Commissioner Frigo motioned to recommend hiring Pale Blue Dot for Phase 1, with the plan to propose Phase 2 for next year's budget. If Pale Blue Dot is not selected, it is suggested to revisit the scope of work. Commissioner Daly seconded the motion.

MOVE TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF HIRING Pale Blue Dot for Sustainability Scorecard.

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Frigo

SECONDER: Commissioner Daley

AYES – Truitt, Abeln, Daly, Frigo

Staff Liaison Hubsky announced that the proposal will be reviewed in detail by Matt Striker, Executive Director from GWA, Community Development staff, two management analysts, and himself. Once the evaluation is complete, a recommendation will be prepared, and the EC will be informed if the decision is to proceed with Pale Blue Dot. The goal is to start in July. If the project moves forward, he requests that an EC representative be part of the process and meetings. Commissioner Frigo volunteered to attend.

VI. Commissioner Topics

1. Sustainable Yards Tour – Chairperson Truitt asked Commissioner Daly if she could assist with promotion efforts for this event, and Daly agreed.

2. Recycling Events – Chairman Truitt shared an update from Commissioner Kwiatkowski regarding the fall mini recycling event, which is scheduled for the same time as the Pumpkin Smash. The current location is too small to accommodate both events. Kwiatkowski reached out to the College of DuPage, and they have agreed to host the event, but not until next fall.

Truitt inquired about using the library parking lot for the summer mini recycling event, but Hubsky replied that this is not feasible due to construction, staffing

shortages in the summer, and traffic management challenges. Additionally, there is no suitable space in the village for the summer event.

Truitt announced that the next scheduled recycling mini event will be on November 3. We will skip the summer mini event this year and plan to have one next summer. Discussions will continue with the College of DuPage to see if all future recycling events can be held there.

VII Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. Commissioner Frigo motioned and Commissioner Abeln seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.

The next EC meeting – August 20, 2024

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Hubsy