

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

August 27, 2024

Board or Commission: Environmental
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: Yes

Date: August 27, 2024
Called to Order: 7:01 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:42 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Christie Truitt	Chairperson	Present
Jeff D. Abeln	Commissioner	Present
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present – Late arrival 7:41pm
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowski	Commissioner	Present
Karen Lilly	Commissioner	Present
Maggie Frigo	Student Commissioner	Present

Also Present:

John Hubsy	Assistant Public Works Director	
Chris Gutmann	Park District Liaison	
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	
Christina Kristi	Public Works Management Analyst	
PUBLIC		
Kristen Bond	234 Cumnor , Glen Ellyn	
David D'Hooge	Lambert Lake Steward	

I. CALL TO ORDER

The August 27, 2024 meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairperson Truitt at 7:01 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

- II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** –Kristen Bond, a resident of Glen Ellyn, expressed her desire to add information on EV readiness to the Village website. She has identified five pages of content covering topics such as EV readiness, rebate incentives, safety, charging options, and more. Bond hopes this material will be incorporated into the Village site and will share the content with Chairperson Truitt for review. Chairperson Truitt mentioned she would review the material and circulate it to the commission for feedback. Chairperson Truitt thanked Bond for her efforts.

David D'Hooge, Lambert Lake Steward, is seeking assistance from the EC and other community organizations to help find his replacement. After serving in the volunteer role for seven years, he is ready to pass the position on but plans to stay until the end of the year. He hopes the EC can assist in identifying his successor. The Steward's

duties include organizing volunteers for restoration and maintenance, picking up trash, clearing trails, and more. D'Hooge mentioned that while the work is rewarding, he currently contributes about 80% of the volunteer hours. The EC requested he provide a master plan outlining the responsibilities of the role, which they will review and add to a future agenda. Commissioner Kwiatkowski thanked D'Hooge for his years of dedicated service.

- III. ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Chairperson Truitt welcomes Karen Lilly as the new commissioner and Maggie Frigo as the new student commissioner to the EC. She also extends her gratitude to former Commissioner Karin Daly for her dedicated service, noting that her term has recently ended.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 25, 2024 MEETING –

MOVE TO APPROVAL MINUTES FROM 6/25/2024 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Frigo

SECONDER: Commissioner Abeln

V. LIAISON REPORTS

A. *Trustee Liaison Report*: The vote on Hen Ellyn was defeated 4-2, with Board Members Christiansen and Simon voting in favor. Commissioner Casazza noted that 82 public comments were submitted in support of Hen Ellyn. Trustee Christiansen also gave an impassioned explanation advocating for its approval.

Additionally, the Village voted 5-1 to annex the property on Hill Avenue near the Glen Ellyn Country Club to expand club parking.

B. *Staff Liaison Report* – Staff Liaison Hubsy provided an update on the CBD Streetscape, noting that the top layer of paving will take place this week. He also mentioned that the brine system equipment is expected to be installed by the end of September. Additionally, Hubsy addressed concerns about Lambert Lake, explaining that a pipe installed in the early 2000s burst, causing the lake to drain more than it should. A temporary repair has been made, which is expected to last 2-3 years, but a permanent solution will require significant capital investment.

C. *Park District Liaison Report* – Park District Liaison Gutmann provided an update, noting that all nature camps have successfully concluded. The Park District is currently focused on restoration projects at Churchill, although recent flooding in the area may make it difficult to control invasive species. Additionally, the native tree and plant sale will begin on September 13, with pickups scheduled for September 28. The rain gardens recently added are thriving.

D. Chairperson Report – Chairperson Truitt provided several updates, highlighting the success of the Conservation Foundation's Sustainable Yard Tour on July 27, which had 377 registered attendees. She also noted that the Main Street gardens, installed in May, are thriving. Regarding last week's train station review meeting, Truitt asked Staff Liaison Hubsy if the EC could submit recommendations. Hubsy confirmed that the EC can submit recommendations, and he will forward them on.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Chairperson Truitt reviewed the EC's upcoming priorities:

Events:

- Aug/Sept – Native Tree & Plant Sale
- October – Go Green Glen Ellyn
- October 5 – Oaktober Fest: Discussed hosting a table and possibly sponsoring a community film on October 12. Commissioner Casazza will confirm the date and check if there is a fee to sponsor a film.
- October 9 – Two Hound Red Social Hour: Planned discussion on trees. Commissioner Casazza will verify if Max Brown can attend.
- November – Go Green Recycling Mini/Pumpkin Smash
- December – Decorating the library tree
- 2025 – Recycling Extravaganza at COD in April, with Spring and Fall Recycling Minis also planned.

The EC agreed to offer and promote recycling events to raise awareness and grow participation.

Newsletter/Website Content: Commissioner Frigo volunteered to draft an educational piece on the differences between community solar and rooftop solar, including contacts for further information. Hubsy added that the content could be featured on the village website and newsletter to provide a resource for residents.

Promoting Sustainable Landscaping: Chairperson Truitt and Commissioner Lilly discussed promoting sustainable landscaping and making recommendations. They will work with Max to inventory village properties where sustainable landscaping can be implemented. Hubsy noted that most village landscaping beds are located downtown on Main Street.

Commissioner Lilly will also draft an article for Stroll on a recap of the Sustainable Garden tour for October.

B. *Sustainability Baseline Assessments* – Staff Liaison Hubsy provided an update, noting that the village board has approved Pale Blue Dot's assessment proposal. Initially, staff recommended interviewing both Pale Blue Dot and Olympic, but Olympic withdrew their proposal due to staffing shortages. The Phase 1 baseline assessment agreement has been signed with Pale Blue Dot, and the village is awaiting confirmation on the kick-off meeting. Two EC representatives are needed for the project, which will also include 3-5 village staff members. Once the final report is submitted, the EC will be able to present a recommendation to the board.

VII Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. Commissioner Kwiatkowski motioned and Commissioner Casazza seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

The next EC meeting – September 17, 2024

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Hubsky