

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

September 24, 2024

Board or Commission: Environmental
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: Yes

Date: September 24, 2024
Called to Order: 7:01 p.m.
Adjourned: 9:36 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Christie Truitt	Chairperson	Present
Jeff D. Abeln	Commissioner	Present
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowski	Commissioner	Present
Karen Lilly	Commissioner	Present
Maggie Frigo	Student Commissioner	Present

Also Present:

John Hubsky	Assistant Public Works Director	
Kelli Christiansen	Village Trustee Liaison	
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	
Christina Kristi	Public Works Management Analyst	
PUBLIC		
David D'Hooge	Lambert Lake Steward	

I. CALL TO ORDER

The September 24, 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 –

David D'Hooge, Lambert Lake Steward, provided an update on the Lambert Lake stewardship, noting that in 2017 and 2018, the Environmental Commission was involved in a pilot program to find a volunteer to oversee the project. Mr. D'Hooge brought a copy of the ad placed by the EC recruiting for the stewardship position. Although he was informed last month that this is no longer under the commission's purview, he came to the EC to seek his replacement. Commissioner Kwiatkowski clarified that the shift in commission responsibilities doesn't remove the commission's duty to address the matter. She emphasized the need to decide if and how to continue the search for a replacement. Mr. D'Hooge informed the commission that following the August meeting he was "terminated" from his position at Lambert Lake effective immediately. He had to return all tools and is to do no further work there.

Chairperson Truitt asked D’Hooge to provide a list of the top 10 initiatives for the project. She offered to work with the Park District and D’Hooge, and will bring a recommendation back to the commission. Commissioner Frigo added that the village will need to decide how to maintain the property, whether through a contractor, the Park District, or another approach. Trustee Christiansen added that there are many options to explore and a deeper understanding is needed. Chairperson Truitt expressed gratitude to D’Hooge for all his efforts over the years in caring for the property.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 27, 2024 MEETING & EC/HPC Joint AUGUST 20, 2024 Meeting

MOVE TO APPROVAL MINUTES FROM 8/27/2024 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Frigo

SECONDER: Commissioner Kwiatkowski

MOVE TO APPROVAL MINUTES FROM 8/20/2024 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Frigo

SECONDER: Commissioner Kwiatkowski

V. LIAISON REPORTS

A. Trustee Liaison Report: Trustee Christiansen provided updates, mentioning that the Village Board has approved the holiday lighting decorations. They also granted approval for Jewel to set up their fall decorations.

B. Staff Liaison Report – Staff Liaison Hubsby provided several updates. The CBD Streetscape project will continue to be disrupted for another month due to issues with the brick pavers, but all markings are in place. Two large maple trees in front of the Civic Center are being removed due to declining health and will be replaced with smaller trees. David D’Hooge is collaborating with David Cross to develop a long-term plan for managing the Lambert Lake trails. The timeframe for the lead service line replacement has been reduced from 15 years to 10 and will begin next year. Although the village is in relatively good shape, it is reviewing funding options since Glen Ellyn does not qualify for grant funding for this project due to its median household income.

C. Park District Liaison Report – Park District Liaison Gutmann provided several updates, noting that Migration Mornings have started. The Native Tree and Plant Sale pickup is scheduled for September 28 at the Johnson Center. Additionally, Oaktober

Fest will take place on October 5 at Maryknoll Park from 1:00 to 4:00 PM.

D. Chairperson Report – Chairperson Truitt mentioned that a Girl Scout troop will be attending the October meeting to observe. She suggested they might be interested in taking on a project, such as planning a garden.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

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

1. Land Stewardship - Sustainable Landscaping

- Residential – *Promoting and Recognizing Home Yard Certification* – Truitt expressed gratitude to Karin Daley for the Stroll article highlighting the three certified yards.

Village Website Updates- Commissioner Frigo volunteered to draft the EV content for the website, which will be circulated to the EC for feedback before being submitted to Staff Liaison Hubsby for final approval.

Truitt then asked if the commission was in favor of adding a green initiatives page focused on EV readiness to the website. Commissioner Casazza motioned to add the page, and Commissioner Abeln seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

- Municipal – Chairperson Truitt mentioned that she met with Max Brown to discuss his priorities within the village, with his primary focus being the entry area of the Civic Center. Jennifer Umlauf will assist with the design. Additional areas that could be included in a multi-year plan include the parking lot near Mont Claire and a large section of turf replacement near the Prairie Path.

- Residential Tree Stewardship – Trees on Tap event October 16 at 7:00 pm – Commissioner Casazza provided an update on the event, noting that Two Hound Red will be hosting. CRTI will be in attendance, along with Max Brown, who will provide an overview of developments in Glen Ellyn and the surrounding region. Bartlett Tree Care will also be present and is sponsoring the appetizers for the evening. Go Green and the village will promote the event.

Commissioner Frigo inquired about the tree ordinance. Chairperson Truitt mentioned that she needs another commissioner to assist with this initiative. She also noted that Trustee Christiansen has been researching and gathering information from the Village of Bartlett on their ordinance, which she will provide to Chairperson Truitt to help draft the ordinance. Truitt and Christiansen will review the draft and will circulate it to the EC for feedback. Commissioners Casazza and Frigo volunteered to assist with the ordinance.

2. Waste Stewardship

Recycling Mini & Pumpkin Smash – Commissioner Kwiatkowsky provided an update noting the revised traffic flow has been approved by the Park District.

3. Engage

Quarterly E-news content – Chairperson Truitt mentioned that Oaktober Fest will be included in the digital newsletter. She requested content ideas for the winter edition. Commissioner Casazza volunteered to draft an article on smart salt practices. Hubsky suggested a spring topic on bee nest reporting.

Events:

- October 5 – Oaktober Fest: Chairperson Truitt asked the EC if they would like to allocate a portion of the EC budget to support Oaktober events this year. The EC agreed.

Commissioner Abeln motioned to approve a budget allocation not to exceed \$750 for Oaktober events, with Commissioner Frigo seconding the motion. The motion passed with 5 votes in favor and 2 commissioners abstaining.

MOVE TO APPROVE A BUDGET ALLOCATION NOT TO EXCEED \$750 FOR OAKTOBER EVENTS

RESULT: Motion passed

MOVER: Commissioner Abeln

SECONDER: Commissioner Frigo

AYES: Truitt, Abeln, Frigo, Lily, Student Frigo

ABSTAIN: Casazza and Kwiatkowski

Website Content – Chairperson Truitt asked the EC if anyone would be interested in reviewing the website content. Commissioner Casazza volunteered to review the material, provide additional topic suggestions, and identify any content gaps.

B. Sustainability Baseline Assessments Project– Staff Liaison Kristi provided an update on the September 15 kick-off meeting with Ted Redman from Pale Blue Dot. Redman is currently in the information-gathering phase, collecting data from sources such as ComEd, Nicor, and the census. His focus is on six key sectors: transportation/land use, water/wastewater/flooding, green space/ecosystems, buildings/energy, waste management, and health and safety. A progress report may be available in November, with the full baseline summary expected in January. Additionally, a draft of the goal-setting framework for each sector has been requested for January or February. Commissioners Kwiatkowski and Kristi have expressed interest in participating in the goal-setting process. The Environmental Commission will have the opportunity to review the goals and provide input before a separate proposal process is initiated to establish action steps.

VII Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. Commissioner Frigo motioned and Commissioner Lilly seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:36 pm.

The next EC meeting – October 15, 2024

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Hubsy