

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

January 14, 2025

Board or Commission: Environmental
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: Yes

Date: January 14, 2025
Called to Order: 7:05 p.m.
Adjourned: 9:52 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Present/Absent

Christy Truitt	Chair	Present
Jeff Abeln	Commissioner	Present
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowski	Commissioner	Present
Karen Lilly	Commissioner	Absent
Maggie Frigo	Student Commissioner	Present

Also Present:

Kristina Christie	Public Works Management Analyst	
Chris Gutman	Glen Ellyn Park District	
Kelli Christiansen	Village Trustee Liaison	

PUBLIC

John Day	Commissioner Candidate	
Chris English	Commissioner Candidate	

I. CALL TO ORDER

The January 14, 2025 regular meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chair Truitt at 7:05 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

- Glen Ellyn resident John Day was in attendance to learn more about what the Environmental Commission is going to address entering the new year.
- Glen Ellyn resident Chris English in hopes of pursuing a career in renewable energy engineering, was in attendance to learn more about how the Environmental Commission focuses on various topics.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- Commissioner Kwiatkowky noted that the agenda was not posted properly to the public. Kristina Christie will look into it.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 19, 2024 MEETING –

- Commissioners Kwiatkowski and Casazza requested modifications to the November 19, 2024 meeting minutes.
- Commissioner Kwiatkowski motions and Commissioner Casazza seconds the motion to approve the minutes with modifications.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 11/19/24 WITH MODIFICATIONS AS NOTED

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Kwiatkowski

SECONDER: Commissioner Casazza

AYES: # 5

V. TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT –

- First Village Board Meeting of 2025 occurred on 1/13/25.
- Dark Sky compliance was addressed when discussing Christmas lights.

VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT –

- Recycle Coach app – links to varying recycle locations that residents can use for reminders and alerts on Glen Ellyn’s recycling events. Municipalities can change app based on town preferences. Both commercial and municipal locations can be used for recycling drop-off, allowing app to be a more convenient and user-friendly resource.
- Follow up on the Sustainability Baseline Assessment - paleBLUEdot was waiting on Groot to get more accurate data. Timing for the Foundational Documents are now end of January/start of February, draft will most likely be done by end-March.
- It was requested of Groot to obtain a few templates of flyers that highlight recycling. Hoping to share those with the EC once we have received them, to pick the best one from the template styles for the Refuse and Recycling Webpage.
- Commissioner Frigo asked when the EV write-up was going to be posted on the Village website. Kristina Christie said that there were a few questions, and Commissioner Frigo said to just e-mail him with any questions on the write-up.

VII. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON’S REPORT –

- Almost 2,000 pounds of recycled Christmas lights were collected.
- Lake Ellyn shoreline work with native plants.
- Clearing of invasive species across several protected areas, while expanding trail extensions.
- Larger projects in the working for 2025.

VIII. CHAIR REPORT –

- Next Village Board meeting to occur on 1/27/25. David D’Hooge will be recognized for his efforts at Lambert Lake.
- 25-75 trees to be planted to celebrate the Environmental Commission’s 50th Anniversary – is being deferred.

IX. NEW BUSINESS TOPICS

- The EC will be making recommendations to the tree preservation plan of the building permit ordinance. But it was noted that the EC would like to have a separate tree preservation ordinance in the long-term, and that modifying the existing building permit process was a good first step.
- Village Board would be willing to entertain the EC's recommendations on the tree preservation plan to the building permit ordinance.
- Discussion occurred on a clear cut fine. General EC consensus that a fine of 10% of assessed value of the new property and structures was appropriate. Will be discussed further at a later point.
- Extensive discussion occurred on the tree preservation plan of the building permit ordinance. Chair Truitt, Commissioner Casazza, and Trustee Christiansen captured specific adjustments to the ordinance language that was discussed during the meeting.
- Commissioner Kwiatkowski reported that the Recycling Extravaganza on April 26th, 2025 currently has 10 vendors, but is still in need of a paint vendor. Efforts have been made to reach out to both Flat Can and Earth Paint, yet neither have gotten back.

MOVE TO USE EARTH PAINT IF THEY CAN COMMIT TO THE RECYCLING EXTRAVANGANZA BY JANUARY 31, 2025. AND IF EARTH PAINT CAN NOT COMMIT BY THAT DATE, APPROVE SPENDING \$250 MORE TO HIRE AND PAY FLATCAN.

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Casazza

SECONDER: Commissioner Frigo

AYES: # 5

- Commissioner Frigo committed to write a solar article (community solar versus rooftop) by the end of February.
- Student Commissioner Frigo attended a Glenbard West building extension update and reported that the new building extension will indeed likely destroy native oak trees. Chair Truitt mentioned that high school plans on replanting trees on campus will need to be addressed as many of the trees will indeed be affected. Members of the Glen Ellyn Village Board are encouraged to reach out.

X. Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. The next EC meeting – February 11, 2025
- B. Commissioner Frigo motions and Commissioner Kwiatkowski seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:52 pm.

Submitted by Maggie Frigo, Student Commissioner

Reviewed by Kristina Christie, Staff Liaison