



Agenda
Village of Glen Ellyn
Environmental Commission Meeting
Tuesday, April 15, 2025
7:00 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 306

Members of the public are welcome to speak to any item not specifically listed on tonight's Agenda. For those items which are on tonight's Agenda, the public will have the opportunity to comment at the time the item is discussed. Individuals wishing to address the Commission shall exercise proper decorum and respect for the proceedings and the business of the Environmental Commission, and shall refrain from abusive demeanor and language. Commissioners are not obligated to respond to questions.

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Public Comment**
- C. Approval of Minutes**
 - 1) Environmental Commission February 11, 2025 & March 18, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- D. Reports**
 - 1) Park District Liaison Report
 - 2) Trustee Liaison Report
 - 3) Staff Liaison Report
 - 4) Chair Report
- E. Old Business**
 - 1) Strategic Planning Priorities
- F. New Business**
 - 1) New Strategic Planning Priorities
- G. Adjourn**
 - 1) Next meeting May 20, 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

February 11, 2025

Board or Commission: Environmental
Meeting: Regular/Special
Quorum: Yes/No

Date: February 11, 2025
Called to Order: 7:08 p.m.
Adjourned: 9:17 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Present/Absent

Christy Truitt	Chairman	Present
Jeff Abeln	Commissioner	Absent
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
Karen Lilly	Commissioner	Absent
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowsky	Commissioner	Absent
John Day	Commissioner	Present
Chris English	Commissioner	Present
Maggie Frigo	Student Commissioner	Present
Also Present:		
Kristina Christie	Management Analyst – Public Works	Present
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	Absent
Kelli Christiansen	Village Trustee	Absent
Chris Gutman	Glen Ellyn Park District	Absent
PUBLIC		
Ron Aubrey		Present

I. CALL TO ORDER

The February 11th, 2025 regular meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chair Truitt at 7:08 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

- Tree preservation – targeted Burr Oak trees at Lake Ellyn Park have pathogen which has stressed tree’s canopy’s,
- Bartlett Tree Service offer soil and tree evaluation to create a report to target certain residents that have tree’s with 200-year old or older Oak trees with the potential pathogen – present to village in April to help educate and spread awareness.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS –

-Commissioner Mark Frigo wrote up a two-page community solar resources that could be potentially sent out to “Stroll” Magazine.

-“Monarch project” for pollinator planting being recognized in five current locations – looking to see if there are other pollinator friendly areas within Glen Ellyn that could further attract pollinators.

-Recycling Extravaganza in progress – permit from College of DuPage has been granted and flyers have been printed.

-Shredding event with Go Green the following week in Lombard.

-Welcoming new commissioners: John Day and Chris English. They provided the Commission with their emails.

-60 pollinator yards have been certified in 2024 through a partnership with the Conservation Foundation – Commissioner John proposes that putting peoples consented address to help commemorate and celebrate these yards helps to get community engaged. Conservation Foundation sets 2025 goals for an additional 15-25 yards – Commissioner John proposes idea to have 200 more yards certified by 2034 as Glen Ellyn will be 200 years old, goals of about 15/16 a year.

-Commissioner Chris English to possibly write up educational article regarding the harms of residential summer insect spraying towards native pollinators, specifically Monarch butterflies.

- Chair Truitt mentioned a Workshop at the Morton Arboretum on Municipal Tree Ordinance Writing would be useful to give EC varying inputs from several other municipalities.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 14, 2025 MEETING –

1. Commissioner Mark Frigo motions and Commissioner Chris English seconds the motion to approve the minutes from January 14, 2025.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 1/14/2025

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner _Mark Frigo_

SECONDER: Commissioner _Chris English___

AYES: # 5

V. TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT –

VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT –

- Staff Christie mentioned working with EC for the Upcoming Spring Quarterly Newsletter (printed items).

- The basic GE Recycle Coach widget is working, and can be accessed through DuPage County. DuPage County Recycling Page has posted “Recycling Coach” App. We are awaiting training, access and final approval from the Village before we can

make the Glen Ellyn Recycle Coach Widget live on our website. Then Staff Christie will be adding further information for general information, drop off locations, special events, etc.

- GROOT will be providing a Flyer for the EC review.
- On 1/31/25, Village Staff and EC Members attended a virtual meeting with Ted to discuss key learnings and conduct a pre-baseline assessment. The Foundational Research Documents were reviewed, with time for question and answer, along with a discussion of the next steps. The Draft of the Sustainability Baseline Assessment Document is expected at the end of February. In March, the final phase will take place, including the Review of the Baseline Assessment Documents, Goal Setting and Presentations.

VII. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON’S REPORT

- May 10th, Curbside Composting for village green gardens.
- They have conducted extensive clearing of mature European buckthorn at Churchill Park. The area has been seeded with 38 species of native plants, and we will be back-planting native trees in spring.
- The holiday light recycling program has concluded for another season. We don’t have a final weight yet from the recycling company, but we estimate it will be around 3,000 lbs.
- The Park District received four eastern screech-owl nest boxes from an eagle scout project. The boxes will be installed in natural areas where this species has been documented. Eastern screech-owls, while still abundant in some areas, are declining.

VIII. NEW BUSINESSNG TOPICS

- Proposed Idea: CRTE willing to bring 50 trees for Environmental Commissions planting 50 trees to commemorate 50 year anniversary.
- Proposed Idea: Affordable housing community, Bridge Communities non-profit owns 4 buildings that could partner with the Environmental Commission to help plant trees for communities to have greater green spaces.

IX. Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. The next EC meeting – March 18, 2025. Chairman
- B. Commissioner John Day motions and Commissioner Chris English seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Submitted by Maggie Frigo, Student Commissioner

Reviewed by Kristina Christie, Staff Liaison

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

March 18, 2025

Board or Commission:	Environmental	Date:	March 18, 2025
Meeting:	Regular	Called to Order:	7:04 p.m.
Quorum:	Yes	Adjourned:	9:24 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Christie Truitt	Chairperson	Present
Jeff D. Abeln	Commissioner	Absent
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Absent
John Day	Commissioner	Present
Chris English	Commissioner	Present
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowsky	Commissioner	Present
Karen Lilly	Commissioner	Absent
Maggie Frigo	Student Commissioner	Absent

Also Present:

Kristina Christie	Management Analyst – Public Works	
Chris Gutmann	Park District Liaison	
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	
PUBLIC		

I. CALL TO ORDER

The March 18, 2025 meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairperson Truitt at 7:04 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 11, 2025 MEETING – Deferred to next month’s meeting.

IV. LIAISON REPORTS

A. Trustee Liaison Report: No report.

B. Staff Liaison Report – Staff Liaison Christie provided several updates: Discussions are ongoing regarding the possible rescheduling of Village and commission meetings.

On February 28, Groot submitted new recycling flyers, which are currently under review, with some changes requested. Commissioner Kwiatkowski emphasized the importance of including a clear statement in the flyer advising residents not to place recyclables in plastic bags, as these items will not be recycled.

Recycle Coach Update:

An app or widget will be added to the Village website to provide recycling information. Discussions about its placement and data integration are still underway.

The Village has received inquiries about whether floppy disks will be accepted at the upcoming recycling event or where they might be recycled. Commissioner Kwiatkowski suggested that SCARCE may be a possible option for accepting them.

C. Park District Liaison Report – Park District Liaison Gutmann provided several updates:

The Park District is replacing the car chargers at Sunset Park, Ackerman, and Mary Knoll, with 90% of the cost covered by a ComEd grant. The new chargers will operate on a pay-per-use system.

The holiday lights recycling program was a success, with 3,283 pounds of lights collected and recycled.

The Park District has posted the open tree care position to replace the forester. This individual will be responsible for the care and maintenance of all trees.

Chairperson Truitt inquired about the tree planting event scheduled for May 9 at Churchill Park, where CRTI will provide the trees and Go Green Glen Ellyn will offer funding. She asked whether both entities should be acknowledged at the event or if separate tree planting days should be planned for each organization. Commissioner Kwiatkowski mentioned that Go Green is leaning toward having a combined event. CRTI will have a volunteer sign-up available on their website and will provide the necessary tools and the first year of mulch. The Park District will need to commit to ongoing care, including weekly watering and mulching.

Regarding curbside composting, Truitt added that compost will be provided for Village Green on May 9. Gutmann will confirm with Lori at the Park District to ensure that date works.

D. Chair Report – Chairperson Truitt provided an update on the meeting she attended regarding the high school referendum. The presentation included an overview of the tree plan, identifying which trees would be removed and which ones would be preserved. They also plan to replace displaced trees on a one-to-one basis within the designated area.

During the meeting, Ron Aubrey and Chairperson Truitt inquired whether growth inhibitors would be used during construction and if growth promoters would be applied afterward. The representatives agreed to follow up on this request.

Truitt then asked the Environmental Commission (EC) for input on the commission's role in this project. Commissioner Frigo suggested that the EC should remain engaged by attending meetings, providing feedback, and ensuring that when the tree preservation plan is released; all necessary elements are included in the special use permitting process.

She provided feedback from the tree ordinance workshop held at the Morton Arboretum hosted by CRTI. Wilmette representatives attended and provided a detailed overview of their ordinance, which includes a tree replacement fee. The funds collected from this fee are allocated to a grant program that allows residents to receive financial assistance if they wish to plant a tree. This information was shared with Trustee Christiansen.

V. OLD BUSINESS

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

50th Anniversary of Glen Ellyn Initiatives – Chairperson Truitt provided an update on plans for the 50th Anniversary celebration, which includes certifying 50 yards and planting 50 trees. She is also exploring additional opportunities for sustainable plantings in the downtown area, including renovating Volunteer Park, which serves as the gateway to Glen Ellyn. Max has expressed interest in designing the landscape for Volunteer Park, with support from The Conservation Foundation. Additionally, Max is interested in transforming the Monte Clare parking lot into a Monarch pollinator habitat, aligning with the Mayor's Caucus initiative to promote monarch migration. Truitt also suggested inviting former EC commission members to participate in all EC planting events.

Chairperson Truitt proposed including the Bridge Communities Project as part of the 50th Anniversary initiatives. She provided an update on a recent meeting where she discussed the potential for renovating the landscape along Pershing Avenue. A landscape designer has volunteered to enhance the landscaping around the building; the Conservation Foundation will also take part in this project as well as the CRTI in providing tree planting near the site. The project is partially funded, and the EC may explore additional funding opportunities. The CEO of Bridge Communities expressed support and noted that if the EC could raise \$10,000, they would match the amount. Truitt suggested involving volunteers for planting days, emphasizing the positive impact this project could have on the area.

The next steps include raising awareness about the project and exploring potential fundraising efforts. Commissioner Kwiatkowsky raised questions about the logistics of fundraising for private entities. Commissioner English added that the EC could contribute by promoting sustainable landscaping and supporting the fundraising event through volunteer efforts.

Recycling Extravaganza Update – Commissioner Kwiatkowsky reported that flyers for the event are ready to be posted. She will send a reminder to all participating vendors on March 26. Kwiatkowsky also asked Staff Liaison Christie to ensure that vests are included for the event. She then asked the EC members to confirm who will be volunteering, with Chairperson Truitt and Commissioners Frigo, Day, English, Truitt, and Student Commissioner Frigo confirming their attendance.

Greenest Region Compact Initiatives – Chairperson Truitt highlighted several initiatives under the Greenest Region Compact, including community certifications, Dark Skies, and the Monarch Pledge. She suggested that the EC could pursue certifications for Bees and Birds City as part of these initiatives.

Commissioner English shared a write-up on protecting local pollinators, outlining alternatives to pesticide use. He volunteered to research the certification criteria for Bee City and Bird City designations and will present his findings at the next meeting. English also committed to sending the criteria to Staff Liaison Christie by April 7 to share with the commission.

Sustainability Assessment – Staff Liaison Christie provided an update, noting that initial feedback on the assessment is being sought. Ted has proposed holding a workshop to review the assessment and help establish realistic and achievable goals. Once these goals are finalized, he will present them to the Village Board.

The EC is encouraged to review the document and provide feedback to Staff Liaison Christie by March 31. After receiving input, Christie will work with Ted to schedule the workshop.

Commissioner Kwiatkowsky mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce recently held its awards ceremony, where, for the first time, a Green Business Award was presented. Nominations were submitted, and the Chamber conducted reviews and interviews with the nominated businesses. The award was ultimately given to À La Main.

Commissioner Day informed the EC that the State of Illinois has proposed legislation, which would allow for the composting of human remains to be used as fertilizer. If passed, this legislation could become law in 2027.

VII Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. Commissioner Day motioned and Commissioner Kwiatkowsky seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:24 pm.

The next EC meeting – April 15, 2025

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Christie



Glen Ellyn Environmental
Commission
535 Duane Street
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Meeting 4/15/2025 7:00 PM
Department: Public Works - Internal Services
Department Head:
Category: Discussion Item
Prepared By:

AGENDA ITEM (ID # 2025-
326)

DOC ID: 2025-326

Strategic Planning Priorities

Statement of the Issue:

a. LAND Stewardship - Cultivate Green Infrastructure and Resilient Landscapes

i. *Sustainable Landscapes*

- 1. Residential Initiative - Yard Certification Blitz Days – discuss Summer Promotions
- 2. Community Initiative
 - * Pershing Ave / Bridge Communities Landscaping Project (status update)
 - * see Mayor’s Monarch discussion *below in New Business*
- 3. Municipal Initiative – Sustainable Transformation of Volunteer Park (status update)

ii. *Tree Planting and Preservation*

- 1. Residential Initiative - Ordinance Discussion (status update)
- 2. Community Initiative - Preserving Babcock’s Grove (status update)
- 3. Municipal Initiative
 - * Arbor Day Tree Planting at Volunteer Park (event update)
 - * 50 Trees for EC’s 50th Year (event update)

b. WASTE Stewardship - Reduce Landfill Waste

i. *Recycling*

- 1. Recycling Extravaganza - Checkpoint

ii. *Composting*

- 1. Compost Give-back in May (event update)

c. ENGAGE - Educate & Motivate

i. *Communications*

1. STROLL Articles – May/June/July Series recommendations (update)
2. Website Resources - Green Initiatives Status (status update)
3. Digital Newsletters – Solar, Babcock’s Grove Preservation (update)

ii. *Events and Education*

1. 2025 – 50-Year Anniversary of GEEC

* Planting 50 Trees with CRTI (event updates)

* Celebration – Monarch Migration (September) or Oaktoberfest

(defer)

iii. *Plans and Publications*

1. Sustainability Baseline Assessment – Next Steps

* Presentation by Ted Redmond of paleBLUEdot – Overview of
the Draft Document

* Discussion of Next Steps

Analysis:

Budget Impact:

Contribution to Strategic Plan

Action Requested:

Attachments:



**Glen Ellyn Environmental
Commission**
535 Duane Street
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Meeting 4/15/2025 7:00 PM
Department: Public Works - Internal Services
Department Head:
Category: Discussion Item
Prepared By:

**AGENDA ITEM (ID # 2025-
324)**

DOC ID: 2025-324

New Strategic Planning Priorities

Statement of the Issue:

a. LAND Stewardship

i. Municipal Sustainability Certifications – recommendations for near-term and long-term goals

1. Mayor’s Monarch Pledge, Bird City, Bee City, Dark Skies Community, NWF Wildlife Habitat Community

b. WASTE Stewardship

i. Reduce – discussion of municipal or commercial recognition of restaurants that reduce distribution of plastic silverware

Analysis:

Budget Impact:

Contribution to Strategic Plan

Action Requested:

Attachments: