



Agenda  
Village of Glen Ellyn  
Environmental Commission Meeting  
Tuesday, October 21, 2025  
7:00 PM  
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 306

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*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) Approve August 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes
  - 2) Approve September 16, 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) Role of the Environmental Commission in Large-Scale Projects
- G. Adjourn**

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Civility Pledge - In the interest of civility, I pledge to promote civility by listening, being respectful of others, acknowledging that we are striving to support and improve our community, and understanding that we each may have different ideas for achieving that objective.

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

## MINUTES

### August 19, 2025

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**Board or Commission:** Environmental  
**Meeting:** Regular  
**Quorum:** Yes

**Date:** August 19, 2025  
**Called to Order:** 7:10 p.m.  
**Adjourned:** 8:59 p.m.

#### MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

#### Present/Absent

Christy Truitt	Chair	Present
Jeff Abeln	Commissioner	Absent
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
John Day	Commissioner	Absent
Chris English	Commissioner	Present
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowsky	Commissioner	Present
Monica Miller	Commissioner	Present
Maggie Frigo	Student Commissioner	Present

#### Also Present:

Max Brown	Public Works Forestry Superintendent	
Sonia Desai Bhagwakar	Trustee Liaison	

#### PUBLIC

Jill Paulus		

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The August 19, 2025 regular meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chair Truitt at 7:10 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

#### II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

Jill Paulus, resident of school district and park district, lives right behind Hadley. Comments are in regard to the upcoming project at Glenbard West. Unaware of the referendum and project on the school. Upon realization there would be a large

addition, she attended the May and June Plan Commission meetings as well as additional public meetings related to the project. Proceeds to reference comments of note from those meetings. From the May 22 meeting, she references a statement made by Plan commissioners Dawson, Wyand, and Loftus, that “there would be no hardship”. During the 2nd meeting in June, Loftus stated “it is up to the Village to do what the people want and is the rationale for passing it to the Board.” On July 14, there was an overflow meeting of residents opposed to the project at West. On page 8, architect Kelly from Wold “we best identified how to limit impact to the hill, especially to the mature vegetation...the intent would be for students to be able to interact with the vegetation even more.” Paulus states she discussed with 36 neighbors and only 5 were aware of the referendum/project. The project is proposed to be 4 stories which is as high as the McChesney property. Plan commission was asked if the EC was asked and the answer was that the EC was informed of the project. The architect said that the EC gave approval to remove the trees and that the EC said there is no formal process. **Chair Truitt clarified that the EC has not been consulted in any formal capacity on this project.**

There is no formal requirement for this to be brought to the Environmental Commission; however, no one on the environmental commission was consulted regarding the trees. Rob Aubrey, who is a citizen volunteer and possibly involved with the tree inventory, was in attendance at a public meeting. During this meeting, they explained which trees would be lost and additional trees would be impacted as a result of the construction. EC has not been consulted on trees / ribbons tied on trees are not as a result of any input from the EC. While EC has not been asked, EC will be giving a list of formal recommendations.

Commissioner Mark Frigo lists two failures. A massive construction project in this town went to the Village without bringing this to the EC. The second failure was that the district hired architects who found out there was no requirement to bring anything to EC and therefore didn't.

Trustee Liaison Bhagwakar stated that the architects followed the steps to complete the project and didn't have to consult with the EC. Commissioner Miller adds that the high school should recognize that they want to be a good neighbor to the rest of the village.

Chair Truitt states that 3 recommendations will be submitted to be included with the permit: how to care for the property during construction; considerations for the building (i.e. bird friendly glass); and post-construction care for the area.

### **III. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- None.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- None, June Minutes to be reviewed and approved in September

### **V. TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT –**

- Strategic Plan will be reviewed for the next 5 years in order to provide clarity on the Village's role.

#### VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT –

- Working on fall plantings, getting trees planted and placed for this coming fall, additional plants to be planted at volunteer park. Wanted to celebrate volunteer park as a sustainable park, arbor day celebration in “oaktober.” A number of little trees were lost last year than normal due to cicadas. 123 trees planned for fall and targeting another 80.

#### VII. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON'S REPORT –

- Conservation Dogs Cooperative assisted staff in locating potential bumblebee nests at Maryknoll Park. This launches the second phase of our pollinator monitoring program. The first phase was butterfly monitoring, which is in its second year.
- The popular Nature Camps have concluded for the summer. These summer camps provided children of various ages the opportunity to learn about and explore park district natural areas.
- The District utilized an amphibious harvester to manually remove algae from Lake Ellyn ahead of the 4th of the July festivities.
- Grant-funded buckthorn removal and cattail treatment is near completion at Churchill Park.
- The Native Tree and Shrub sale is now live at <https://glen-ellyn-park-district.square.site/>. Pre-orders can be submitted until September 14th. Pickup is September 27th from 9-11 a.m. at the Frank Johnson Center.

#### VIII. CHAIR REPORT

- Recycling mini recap from Commissioner Kwiatkowsky - 185 cars in 2 hours; great success; November 8 for the next mini is already scheduled; 9-11am at COD. Feedback on previous mini was there was more reuse than recycling, which was impactful and different. Discussion of vendors for next mini- Junk luggers, textile collection, perhaps styrofoam recycling, paint recycling? Not SCARCE unless they can collect their own items. Discussion on whether to invite earth paint or flatcan. Kwiatkowsky will check with vendors and revert back for the September meeting. English and Mark Frigo can volunteer. Truitt and Miller are TBD. Casazza is unavailable.
- Upcoming recognition of the EC for our 50th year at a Board meeting. Ted Redmond will be presenting at the Board workshop. Dates TBD and Christy will advise.
- Staff Liaison Change - John Hubsy will be the Commission's staff liaison for the next few months.
- Thank you to The Conservation Foundation for including two Glen Ellyn properties on their **July 19th Conservation@Home DuPage Garden Showcase**. These inspiring homes highlighted both vegetable gardens and native pollinator gardens along with native trees.
- Thank you to Commissioner Jacquelyn Casazza for coordinating the **July 26th Compost Giveback** at Village Green - a terrific opportunity to make compost

accessible to our community. Thank you to the Glen Ellyn Park District for making the site available!

- Thank you to Commissioner Barbara Kwiatkowsky for her tireless efforts to coordinate and lead the **July 26th Recycling Mini** - overcoming many odds to enable four vendor stations (textiles, furniture, electronics, and books) at COD Parking Lot #6, all of which were overflowing after the brief but successful 2-hour event! We look forward to hearing from her on Tuesday night with a recap and any recommendations for future mini recycling events. Thank you to community volunteers, along with Commissioners Mark Frigo and Chris English and Chair Truitt, for volunteering at the event.
- Thank you to Glen Ellyn Garden Club volunteers, along with Trustee Bhagwakar, Commissioner Kwiatkowsky, and Chair Truitt, for working on July 31 to transplant native plants into the **Fire Station Prairie Garden**, the **Volunteer Park Butterfly Gardens**, and the **Civic Center Pollinator Gardens**. These gardens continue to grow more beautiful and full of life with both birds and pollinators!
- Thank you to the Public Works Forestry team for their ongoing support of these gardens, watering this season to establish the new plants.
- Thank you to two Glen Ellyn residents and professional landscape designers for volunteering their time to design and shepherd the ongoing development of Glen Ellyn sustainable municipal gardens:
  - Former Commissioner Jennifer Umlauf, **Civic Center Pollinator Gardens**
  - Glen Ellyn Garden Club member Mary Colby of Grandview Green, **Volunteer Park Butterfly Gardens**
  - Both Jennifer and Mary continue to volunteer to design for upcoming projects.
- Thank you to Forestry Superintendent Max Brown for envisioning current and future opportunities for **sustainable municipal gardens** in Glen Ellyn. One opportunity has led to others, and the ripple effect continues to expand to beautify our village.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS TOPICS**

- Tree ordinance - Trustee Christiansen will be taking this forward. Additional content will be added in from the Wilmette tree ordinance. Truitt will connect with Commissioner English on the tree ordinance.
- Strategic Planning Priorities
  - Glenbard West Recommendations Draft of Recommendations for Glenbard West Expansion Project**
  - Tree Preservation During Construction - for trees marked for preservation
    - Fencing to drip line
    - Pre-construction soil treatment to hibernate Oak trees
    - Restriction of soil changes near drip line for Oak trees
    - Restriction of addition of soil near Oak trees post-construction
    - Post-construction soil treatments for Oak trees (multi-step process)
    - Plan for post-construction mulching (no volcano mulching) or native plants within the drip line
  - Post Construction Environment Restoration

- Tree replacement recommendations for type, quantity, and location - to rebuild total DBH of trees removed and to prioritize oak grove restoration
- Ongoing budget for tree care with soil treatments and pruning
- Arboretum Campus certification
- Partnership with The Conservation Foundation for Conservation@School collaboration and certification of landscape plans
- Sustainability in Building Design and Maintenance
  - Bird-safe glass applications (see Feather Friendly as example from Chicago's McCormick Place Lakeside Center)
  - Dark sky-compliant exterior building and path lighting
  - Dark sky-compliant exterior visibility of interior nighttime lighting
  - Light warmth of 2700 or 3000 for interior and exterior lighting
  - Occupancy timers for lighting and use of daylight for lighting where possible
  - Transition to safe cleaners such as steam cleaning solutions
  - Organic landscape care to avoid sending pollutants into Lake Ellyn and the DuPage River
  - Concrete vs asphalt surfaces for cool surfaces and to avoid polluting water systems
  - Permeable walkways where possible

Commissioner Frigo asked about the enforcement for the tree preservation during construction. Typically, this is community development. Concerns about mulching and volcano mulching. Truitt and Frigo measured the DBH of trees to be removed and are cataloging what will be lost versus what will be maintained. Wilmette's recommendation is greater than 1:1 DBH and increases proportionally depending on the size of the trees. There would be recommendations made on where to put the trees given there will not be enough space at West to replace the trees.

Commissioner English asks if it is possible to make it more preferable for the school to choose these recommendations. Commissioner Frigo points out that it would behoove Glenbard West to review and adopt recommendations made by the EC given the feedback from the community about the addition.

Commissioner Casazza asks to add something related to no rubberized walkways or synthetic turf added in certain areas, referencing an example that a section of synthetic turf was recently installed at Lincoln Elementary without notification to the community.

Commissioner English motions to submit our recommendations to Glenbard west as presented today and including amendments added during the meeting. Frigo seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**X. NEW BUSINESS TOPICS**

- Review Sustainability Assessment priorities

- GE 1: Increase tree cover, particularly in the priority neighborhoods, over the existing tree canopy coverage  
Draft goal: 5% by 2035 and 7.5% by 2040 (equal to an increase of 1.9% and 2.8% of Village wide land area respectively).
- GE 2: Increase pollinator supportiveness of lawns by replacing turf with native grasses and wildflowers  
Draft goal: achieve a 7% turf replacement (approximately 8 acres annually)
- GE 3: Reduce heat island effect through “dark” impervious surface coverage reduction, particularly in neighborhoods identified with higher heat island impacts  
Draft goal: 5% annually (approximately 4.5 acres annually).
- GE 4: Reduce invasive species and increase climate resilience and biodiversity of the Village’s tree canopy, parks and greenspaces.

Priorities to review each meeting - health and safety (done in June), greenspace (Sept), waste management (Oct), water (Nov), transportation, buildings (Jan/Feb),

Commissioner Truitt has specific recommendations for each area. Discussion ensued; commissioners to send any feedback on greenspace by September 9 in bcc for each other to review, and come prepared to discuss and vote at the next meeting in Sept.

Discussion of upcoming stroll articles; suggestion to do write up on any federal or state sustainable incentives for homeowners which are ending soon.

Commissioner Mark Frigo agrees to write this article.

## **XI. Next Meeting & Adjournment**

- A. The next EC meeting – September 16, 2025
- B. Commissioner Frigo motions and Commissioner English seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

**Submitted by Jacquelyn Casazza, Commissioner**  
**Reviewed by Staff Liaison Hubsy**

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (EC)

## MINUTES

September 16, 2025

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**Board or Commission:** Environmental  
**Meeting:** Regular  
**Quorum:** Yes

**Date:** September 16, 2025

**Called to Order:** 7:07 p.m.  
**Adjourned:** 9:30 p.m.

### MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

### Present/Absent

Christie Truitt	Chair	Present
Jeff Abeln	Commissioner	Absent
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
John Day	Commissioner	Present
Chris English	Commissioner	Present
Mark Frigo	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowski	Commissioner	Present
Monica Miller	Commissioner	Present
Vacant	Commissioner	

### Also Present:

John Hubsy	Staff Liaison	Present
Sonia Bhagwakar	Village Trustee	Present
Chris Gutman	Glen Ellyn Park District	Present
JD Barrett	Management Analyst	Present
<b>PUBLIC</b>		
Matthew Jones	GE Zoning Board, Trustee candidate	
Jill Paulus (via mail)	Wheaton Resident	

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### I. CALL TO ORDER

The September 16, 2025 regular meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Truitt at 7:07 PM at Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

### II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

- Matthew Jones is observing. He is on the GE Zoning Board and a trustee candidate.
- Jill Paulus, resident of Wheaton, provided the following written note mailed to Commissioner Frigo: *To all the Environmental Board: Thank you for all your work to protect Glen Ellyn Natural Resources for our community. I thank you too, for allowing me to comment at length on the trees and hill preservation at Glenbard West. I understand D87 is now in direct communication with the Commission, so I hope that is fruitful.*

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.**

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 19, 2024 MEETING –**

- Date typo at the top of the August 19 meeting minutes needs to be fixed. There needs to be some additions to those minutes that Chair Truitt will provide later. So, the Commission will just table the approval of the August meeting minutes.
- Commissioner Kwiatkowsky motions and Commissioner Day seconds the motion to approve the minutes from June 17, 2025 meeting and defer the approval of August 19, 2025 minutes to next month.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JUNE 17, 2025

RESULT: Motion unanimously carried

MOVER: Commissioner Kwiatkowksy approve June and defer August minutes.

SECONDER: Commissioner Day

AYES: # all

**V. TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORT –**

- PaleBlueDot presented to the Board yesterday. How to move to action items is next phase. Staff Liaison Hubsy is going to get Ted from PaleBlueDot to present a \$20K proposal on actionable items.

**VI. STAFF LIAISON REPORT –**

- Finishing up some construction projects.
- Prepping for winter.
- 10 miles of roadway to be reconstructed in 2026.
- Explanation of capital budgeting on equipment provided by Staff Liaison Hubsy.
- No definitive plans for bike lines right now, but are considered in street design.
- Explanation of concrete versus asphalt streets provided.

**VII. PARK DISTRICT LIAISON'S REPORT –**

- Ackerman (Lenox Road area)
  - Finished Lenox Road section of Ackerman with new parking lot.
  - Outdoor nature classroom.
  - Garden plots there starting next summer.
- Native tree and shrub sale → sold 94.
- Foxtrot - Lotus lily pads treated and removed.
- Weekly migratory bird walks ongoing.

- Planning for Oaktoberfest. Discussion held around Environmental Commission paying for permit fee. See further discussion below.
- Oak regeneration project.
- New tree care person hired for GEPD.

### VIII. CHAIR'S REPORT –

- Commissioner Miller helped with setting up restoration of monarch habitat. Mary Colby put together design for Montclair location. Volunteers coming.
- Tree ordinance update: Commissioner English and Chair Truitt met to discuss changes. Used Wilmette as an example. Recommendation that for every tree of 5 inches of DBH removed, you would replace it with another tree (1-1.5 inch trees). Replace on private land, public land, or put money into fund to be used for grants for other tree plantings on private or public property. Trustee Christiansen to review with attorney and present to Board after budgeting season, likely early 2026. EC will be able to review final draft. Unclear when in sequence EC review would happen. Current changes are for tree preservation with building permit.

### IX. NEW BUSINESS TOPICS

- We are eligible for Leadership Circle, and can move up to Champion Circle for Monarch pledge. Chris English will be focusing on. What's needed: if we want Champion Circle then we need to change weed ordinance to meet requirements. GE doesn't enforce weed ordinance for native plant installations (as long as it is taken care of).
- Commissioner English gave an update on the Mayor's Monarch pledge. One of the things the EC can do is support a seed bank. The Glen Ellyn Public Library currently has one. Commissioner English is going to check with them on what support (publicity/seed sharing/donation) they need. Commissioner English will come back to the EC with a recommendation on what they need and what we can provide to meet that need.
- Mini Recycling: Only one vendor committed (Junk Luggers). The question discussed within the EC is whether to still hold the event. Importance of having a regular cycle and "muscle memory" within GE noted. Commissioner Kwiatkowsky to reach out to Junk Luggers and see if are interested being the only vendor. Guidance from EC given → By September 30, if we get two more entities, go forward. If not, cancel unless Junk Luggers is willing to do it on their own.
- Curbside composting. Have Grant do a marketing blurb on this.
- Need stickers from Groot to finish job on putting recycling instruction on cans. Might be better for Recycle Coach App and in Village Newsletter using a QR code.
- Oaktoberfest – October 4 from 1 – 4 p.m. 20 different vendors. May need volunteers.

MOVE TO APPROVE \$150 FOR EC TO PAY FOR PERMIT FOR OAKTOBERFEST.  
RESULT: Motion unanimously carried  
MOVER: Commissioner English  
SECONDER: Commissioner Miller  
AYES: # all

- Glenbard West tree inventory: Chair Truitt and Commissioner Frigo took a tree inventory. They met with Glenbard West to offer advice. Conservation Foundation,

Morton Arboretum (Chicago Region Tree Initiative – CRTI), and Bartlett Tree Co. are willing and interested to collaborate with Glenbard West. Glenbard West is requesting its building permit this fall. Chair Truitt requested that non-binding recommendations and advice be attached as an addendum to the building permit. This request spurred debate on the role of the Environmental Commission in large projects in Glen Ellyn, and the appropriateness of providing advice and commentary on projects outside the bounds of the Environmental Commission Meeting (see next bullet).

- Several members of the Environmental Commission have expressed frustration and major concern on how the Commission has not been consulted on construction projects and purchases that can have a major environmental impact on the Village (for example, Glenbard West addition and purchase of a new fleet of golf carts). No real process seems to exist in the Village to 1) identify major projects in Glen Ellyn that need environmental review and advice, and 2) how to properly engage the Environment Commission to provide any relevant recommendations for the Village Board to consider. Staff Liaison Hubsy and Trustee Bhagwakar have agreed to consider this to see if there is a solution. The Environmental Commission needs to think of potential solutions as well. This should be discussed at a future Commission Meeting.

**X. Next Meeting & Adjournment**

A. The next EC meeting – October 21, 2025.

B. Commissioner Casazza motions and Commissioner Kwiatkowsky seconds the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

**Submitted by Mark Frigo, Commissioner**

**Reviewed by J.D. Barrett, Management Analyst**



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

Meeting 10/21/2025 7:00 PM  
Department: Administration  
Department Head:  
Category: Other  
Prepared By:

**AGENDA ITEM (ID # 2025-885)**

**DOC ID: 2025-885**

## **Strategic Planning Priorities**

### **Statement of the Issue:**

- **LAND Stewardship** – Cultivate Green Infrastructure and Resilient Landscapes
  - *Sustainable Landscapes*
    - Environmental Impacts of Pesticides (Mosquito Abatement)
  - *Tree Planting and Preservation*
    - Tree Preservation Ordinance
    - Tree Protection Enforcement
- **WASTE Stewardship** – Reduce Landfill Waste
  - *Recycling*
    - November Mini Event Checkpoint
  - *Composting*
- **ENGAGE** – Educate & Motivate
  - *Communications*
    - Mayor’s Monarch Pledge Update
  - *Events and Education*
  - *Plans and Publications*
    - Action Item Planning for the Sustainability Assessment

### **Analysis:**

### **Budget Impact:**

### **Contribution to Strategic Plan**

### **Action Requested:**

### **Attachments:**