

MINUTES

COMMISSION:	Environmental	DATE:	11/15/11
QUORUM:	Yes	CALLED TO ORDER:	7:30 p.m.
		ADJOURNED:	9:07 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Chairman Neary
Commissioners Bateman, Glaza, Kreuzer,
Flood, Pellico and Westcott; Trustee
Liaison McGinley; Staff Liaison Letson

EXCUSED: Commissioner Rahn and
Temico

PUBLIC PRESENT: Cool Cities
Representative Jeff Gahrts

- 1. Call Meeting to Order –**
Chairman Neary called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in Room 303 of the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.
- 2. Public Participation –** At the request of the Commission, Jeff Gahrts attended the meeting to give an overview on exactly what Cool Cities is and what they could do for/with the Village of Glen Ellyn. He discussed the Village’s carbon footprint and suggested the Commission might think about looking in to Electric Aggregation (EA) and forming a plan to utilize it. He went to explain that EA works to solicit bids as a way for communities to purchase power for residential and small commercial accounts. As an example he compared it to securing service for waste collection. He informed the Commission that EA would require a referendum and developing a bid proposal. Surrounding municipalities are currently looking in to this as a possibility and he believed it could work well for Glen Ellyn.

Staff Liaison Letson informed the group that staff had been looking in to EA for some time and would be presenting information to the Village Board for feedback on how staff should proceed. Much discussion was had regarding the purchase of energy and how the Commission could work best with staff to get the Village Board information. Members wondered if they should present anything to the Board regarding this issue and Trustee Liaison McGinley thought members should wait until after the upcoming Board Workshop.
- 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes -**
Commissioner Kreuzer motioned, seconded by Commissioner Bateman to approve the minutes from the October 2011 meeting.

4. Business –

A. Commission Goals –

The Commission went over a list of goals generated by Members and collected by Staff Liaison Letson. Due to the amount of items on the list, Members decided to create ‘buckets’ that smaller ideas would fit under. The group agreed that 3 buckets was a manageable number for the Commission to successfully handle. After a thorough discussion Members decided on the following buckets; RECYCLING, LANDSCAPING and ENERGY CONSERVATION. Members also agreed that some topics might appear in more than one bucket. Commissioner Kreuzer informed the group he would gather information on this so the topic could be discussed in greater detail at a future meeting. Members then decided to place themselves in to the following ‘buckets’; RECYCLING (Commissioners Rahn and Pellico), LANDSCAPING (Commissioners Neary and Bateman), ENERGY (Commissioner Kreuzer), TBD (Commissioners Westcott and Glaza).

Members also discussed the Village pursuing an Earth Flag. Staff Liaison Letson agreed to look in to requirements for this and get back to the Commission.

Moving forward Chairman Neary thought members should think about the ‘bucket’ they are in or would like to be in and whether a subcommittee meeting should be organized. Commissioner Kreuzer asked about Commercial Recycling and what kind of time table Staff has regarding this. He thought those members in the ‘Recycling’ bucket might want to move on this as the Village is in ongoing talks with waste haulers to hammer out a residential and commercial recycling contract. Members agreed that it was a good idea to move on this and Commissioner Kreuzer agreed to do some fact finding regarding it. Commissioner Glaza suggested expanding the subcommittees to include other individuals outside the Commission such as Peggy Drescher to help with Landscaping and Shefali Trivedi to contribute to the Recycling ‘bucket’. All members thought this was a good idea.

B. Other –

Commissioner Bateman was concerned about older Village residents and those with small or medium size cars getting their electronics to the collection site now that electronics can no longer be disposed of with the regular refuse collection. Some electronics might be too large or too heavy for older residents to manage. All of the Members agreed this is a concern. Staff Liaison Letson said he would look into this and get back to the Commission.

5. Chairman’s Report –

Chairman Neary informed the Commission that she recently went to a conference called ‘Science, Teaching & Learning in America’s Heartland’. She went on to explain that there were many non-profit groups there and she handed out information she gathered while attending. Commissioner Kreuzer also briefly talked about seminar he attended at the Morton Arboretum.

6. Trustee Report –

Trustee McGinley updated the Commission on the status of the new Finance Director, the fact that a new Public Works Director has been hired and an update on the issue with the College of DuPage.

7. Staff Liaison Report –

Staff Liaison Letson informed the Commission that the November Village water bill will include a flyer on the Electronics Recycling Program and what Villagers can and can't do. He says Staff is looking in to sending one out regarding the Ash tree in the near future.

8. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment –

The next scheduled regular meeting will be held on December 20, 2011

Respectfully submitted by:

D'Arcy Greenleaf, Environmental Commission Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:

Andrew Letson, Environmental Commission Staff Liaison