

MINUTES

COMMISSION:	Environmental	DATE:	12/20/11
QUORUM:	Yes	CALLED TO ORDER:	7:30 p.m.
		ADJOURNED:	8:31 p.m.
MEMBER ATTENDANCE:		PRESENT:	Chairman Neary Commissioners Bateman, Glaza, Pellico, Temcio, Flood, Rahn and Westcott; Trustee Liaison McGinley; Staff Liaison Letson
		EXCUSED:	Commissioner, Kreuzer
		PUBLIC PRESENT:	None

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 –** None.
3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes -**
Commissioner Glaza motioned, seconded by Commissioner Bateman to approve the minutes from the November 2011 meeting with the following changes:
Commission Goals (3rd paragraph): change ‘weather’ to ‘whether’
Other – Change first sentence to “Commission Bateman was concerned about older residents and those with smaller cars....”
4. **Continuing Business –**
A. Commission Goals –
Before the group discussed Commission Goals Chairman Neary informed Staff Liaison Letson she had a question about the Village’s electronics recycling event. She asked what the Village was going to do for residents who needed to dispose of their air-conditioning units, refrigerators or any device containing Freon. As of 1/1/2012 residents won’t be able to dispose of them in their regular refuse collection and she wondered if the Village had a solution. Staff Liaison Letson said he was not sure, but would look in to it and get back to the Commission.

Chairman Neary briefly went over with the group what was discussed at the last meeting and asked if any members had time to think about or investigate their “buckets”. Commissioner Glaza informed the group that the “Recycling” group had not had a chance to meet. Chairman Neary updated members on “Landscaping”. She went on to say she has had conversations with Peggy Drescher regarding the group and was also going to try and network with the Historic Preservation Commission to try and initiate something with heritage trees and would like to

promote the planting of native trees in the Village. Since Commissioner Kreuzer was not in attendance she also informed the group that she didn't believe that "Energy" had had a chance to meet.

B. Opt-In Electric Aggregation programs –

Chairman Neary informed the group that the subcommittee had not had a chance to meet to discuss this. Members discussed the topic, neighboring towns that were looking at green energy and those that were in the process of adopting opt-out programs. Chairman Neary then went on to ask Trustee Liaison McGinley about reasons the Board was not in favor of an opt-out program.

Trustee Liaison McGinley went over information the Board received relating to opt-out programs and the fact that the Board was all for promoting the use of green energy. She then went on to say the Board was against pursuing an opt-out program because of the staff time it would take for the Village to manage. The Board likes the idea, but would prefer to find a program that people could participate in that doesn't require Village management.

C. Village Pursuing an Earth Flag –

Chairman Neary informed the group that she was recently at the SCARCE offices and would love to hold the next Environmental Commission meeting there. She thought it would be a great learning experience for the Commission. Members agreed it was a good idea and Staff Liaison Letson will discuss details with SCARCE and arrange it.

Chairman Neary then went on and discussed the Village getting an Earth Flag and thanked Staff Liaison Letson for forwarding the Commission information regarding the requirements. Staff Liaison Letson went over his findings with the group which included but were not limited to a green audit and staff training. A discussion took place regarding the various organizations and towns that already have pursued flags such as Glendale Heights, Carol Stream and the Glen Ellyn School Districts. Members all agreed the audit would be a valuable thing to have done and hopefully the benefits of training would help the Village save money.

D. Moving toward Electronic Packets –

Chairman Neary asked the group what their thoughts were regarding an all electronic packet each month. Members agreed this was a good idea that would send the right message. Members also agreed to start in January. Members then discussed creating a list of various e-newsletters they believed would be beneficial for members such as SCARCE, Cool Cities, DuPage County, Conservation Foundation, Sierra Club, etc.

E. Other –

Commissioner Glaza updated the Commission on the Earth Day event for local Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. She gave the group a run down of who she had spoken with, what she had done thus far and a reminder that the event was for first thru fifth graders. The event would be held after school at the Civic Center from 3:30-5:00. The only thing Commissioner Glaza was unsure of was the date but after some discussion Members decided on Thursday, April 19. There was also discussion regarding cost and the fact that there would be some attached to the event. Commissioner Glaza was hopeful that they would be able to secure some funds from the Village but might possibly charge a nominal fee per troop if necessary. She lastly informed the

group that volunteers would be needed but she wouldn't know how many until they got closer to the event date.

5. Chairman's Report –

Chairman Neary updated the group on the Ash tree tagging, how well the effort is being received by residents and what trees are left to tag. She also informed the group that Peggy Drescher needed to know how much time people spent tagging.

Chairman Neary informed the Commission that there was a renewable energy event at Illinois Benedictine from 11-4:00 on January 11. Commissioner Pellico asked if a date had been locked in for the Recycling Extravaganza. Staff Liaison Letson informed the group the date would be April 20.

6. Trustee Report –

Trustee McGinley updated the Commission on COD, lights being voted on by the Plan Commission and the Downtown traffic study.

7. Staff Liaison Report –

Staff Liaison Letson informed the Commission that TIF was moving along. He went on to inform the group that the Joint Review Board met last Friday and voted 4 to 2 to recommend approval. There will be a public hearing January 9 and then the Village Board will have the option to consider three ordinances, which is the final step. He also updated members on the Historic Preservation Commission trying to pursue a nomination of a portion of the downtown as a historic district, the holiday lights recycling program progress and a reminder that the first Electronic Recycling event would be held on January 28 from 8am-noon.

8. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment –

This meeting would be the last for Commissioner Temico. Members thanked him for his hard work and all expressed the fact that he would be missed.

The next scheduled regular meeting will be held on January 17, 2011

Respectfully submitted by:

D'Arcy Greenleaf, Environmental Commission Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:

Andrew Letson, Environmental Commission Staff Liaison