

## MINUTES

**COMMISSION:** Environmental

**DATE:** 12/18/12

**QUORUM:** Yes

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 7:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNED:** 10:15 p.m.

**MEMBER ATTENDANCE:**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Neary;  
Commissioners Koral, Kreuzer,  
Gregory and Pellico; Staff Liaison  
Strong

**EXCUSED:** Commissioners  
Bateman, Glaza, Rahn, Westcott,  
Trustee Liaison McGinley; Student  
Liaison Clewlow

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Jeff Gahris

**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**

See "Energy" where Jeff Garish spoke to the Commission.

**3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Rahn motioned, seconded by Commissioner Gregory to approve the minutes as amended from the November 20, 2012 meeting. The motion was passed unanimously by a vote of 5-0.

**4. Announcements**

**A. Review Subcommittee Goals**

Commissioner Neary wondered if this topic should be discussed later as some members were not present. Staff Liaison Strong informed the group that Subcommittee Chairpersons could forward or update goals that they have via email prior to the next meeting. Members agreed that this was a good idea. Subcommittee Chairpersons were asked to send any goals they have to Staff Liaison Strong for collection so they could be discussed at a future meeting.

## **5. Continuing Business**

### **A. Energy Report**

Jeff Gahrns attended the meeting in hopes that the Commission would recommend that the Village of Glen Ellyn become a Cool City. He went over why he thought this was a good idea for the environment and the Village. Much discussion was had regarding Cool Cities and Chairman Neary asked exactly what was needed for Glen Ellyn to be certified. Mr. Gahrns went over some of the details and possible reasons why the Village had not yet signed on for the program. Mr. Gahrns also discussed how the program worked and that by signing on Glen Ellyn would only be “pledging” to be a Cool City (Official Cool City status is only awarded after you have reduced a previously measured carbon footprint baseline by 20%). After much discussion members agreed that it was a good idea but more detailed discussion would be needed before any recommendation could be made to the Village Board. Chairman Neary thought discussing the topic with members from various Commissions might be a good idea. Staff Liaison Strong stated that he would discuss this idea with Management staff and get back to members at a future date. Commissioners believed that a May-June target for recommendation would be reasonable and Commissioner Kreuzer again reiterated that if the Commission recommended the program it would need to go to the Village Board with very specific details, and/or an action plan. He then asked Mr. Gahrns if he could put something together regarding carbon reduction, and how the Village would achieve it, measure progress, etc. Members agreed to move the topic to the Energy Subcommittee for further discussion.

### **B. Communication Report**

Commissioner Gregory went over information she gathered regarding the Village website. She also discussed ideas she had for the Commission portion of the website and ideas for the overall definition of the Environmental Commission. Commissioners discussed these topics in detail and made suggestions. The Commission had a lengthy discussion about this and all believed the suggestions Commissioner Gregory made were good and would benefit the site. Specific information on Commissioner Gregory’s changes will be contained in the January packet and will be discussed during that meeting.

### **C. Recycling Report**

Commissioner Pellico informed the group that there was a date for the Recycling Extravaganza. Chairman Neary will forward this information to members.

### **D. Sustainable Landscaping Subcommittee Report**

Commissioner Koral updated the group on a meeting that Chairman Neary had with Jim Kleinwachter from The Conservation Foundation. She went on to say that she would like to have a seminar for the public prior to anyone trying to qualify for sustainable garden certification. Her thought was to have the first seminar in March. She would like to promote the seminar in the winter newsletter and have the Garden Walk in the fall. Members thought this was good plan. Commissioner Koral will get back to members with details.

Staff Liaison Strong mentioned that he had “Volcano Flags” that were made to inform residents that their parkway trees were volcano mulched. Members discussed obtaining flags, flag placement and also discussed how to get the word out to Villagers. Staff Liaison Strong will set up a meeting with Public Works Director Julius Hansen to discuss next steps everyone thinks will work.

**6. Chairman’s Report – NONE**

**7. Trustee Liaison Report – NONE**

**8. Staff Liaison Report**

Staff Liaison Strong informed the group that all appointed officials in the Village have to take the Open Meetings Act on-line training. He stated that he will forward the link to the training prior to the January meeting.

**9. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment –**

The next scheduled regular meeting will be held on January 15, 2013

Respectfully submitted by:

D’Arcy Greenleaf, Environmental Commission Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:

Michael Strong, Environmental Commission Staff Liaison