

B. EC Village Webpage Update - Commissioner Gregory updated the group on the current status of the webpage. She went on to say the new Village website is now live and the Environmental Commission page on the site is up with information discussed in previous meetings.

C. EC Budget - Members discussed the 2014 Commission Budget. Currently the budget is \$2,100; \$1,000 for Rain Barrels and \$1,100 for the recycling Extravaganza. Staff Liaison Keenan informed the group that requests for any additional funds need to be handed in ASAP and needed to be specifically line-itemed.

6. Old Business –

A. Commission 3 Year Goal - Chairman Kreuzer wanted the group to know that some subcommittee goals may take up to three years to accomplish and that is OK. He also wanted members to know that not everything can get done quickly.

B. Subcommittee Changes - Members discussed current subcommittees, if they should change and where each member wanted to be placed. Members decided to divide the subcommittees the following way.

- Communication: Chairman Gregory, Commissioner Baldin and Van Gorp
- Conservation & Sustainability: Chairman Kreuzer, Commissioner Pellico and Lowe
- Recycling: Chairman Pellico, Commissioner Zelasco and Cullinane
- Green Spaces: Chairman Kreuzer, Commissioner Van Gorp and Cullinane

Members also decided that since a new member would hopefully join the Commission to replace Commissioner Rahn, the Conservations & Sustainability Subcommittee would be flexible as far as which members would participate. Chairman Kreuzer will Chair the Subcommittee until final decisions are made.

C. Other – Chairman Kreuzer asked Trustee Liaison McGinley about agenda items Village President Demos would like the EC to look at. She informed the group President Demos would like the EC to review the Village use of orange fencing placed around trees for protection. He wondered if the esthetics could be improved upon while still protecting the trees. He is not sure if there is a better way, but wanted the Commission to look in to it. Trustee McGinley also informed the Commission that the President would like them to look at the Tree Preservation Ordinance to see if there might be a way to make it more user friendly to homeowners. Currently, all trees on a property need to be identified prior to construction. He wondered if it needs to be *all* trees. Is there a better way to protect trees while being slightly more helpful to the homeowner? Discussion is had regarding this and Chairman Kreuzer informed the group that he thought both items should be addressed by the Green Spaces Subcommittee; all members agreed.

7. Subcommittee Reports -

A. Communications Subcommittee - Commissioner Gregory reviewed with the group items her Subcommittee would like to work on. Much discussion is had regarding ideas the Subcommittee had such as webpage development, ongoing information to Village Board, special events, outreach, advocacy and collaborating with Village entities on projects such as creating a “summer of the bike” event, doing traffic studies for bike lanes, working with the Park District, etc.

Discussion is also had about getting environmentally relevant information out to residents and the best way to do this. Staff Liaison Keenan informed the group that the enviro-newsletter would be combined with the spring newsletter this year. Chairman Kreuzer asked about contributing to the newsletter as a vehicle of outreach and possibly contributing to other newsletters as well. Staff Liaison Keenan said anything the group would like included in the newsletter could be sent to him. He went on to say that there are four newsletters a year and a weekly Eblast the Commission could contribute to. The group was also reminded that the Village utilizes Twitter and Facebook. Chairman Kreuzer stressed to the group how important it was to use all vehicles of communication to generate awareness, promote events and spread information.

Trustee Liaison McGinley noticed that an item the Communications Subcommittee was interested in was advocating for alternative road salting materials. She informed the group the Public Works Department would be attending the Board meeting in January to present plans for a new salt bay to store salt. The budget for this has been passed and they are currently in the process of approving building plans. She wondered if the Commission would be interested in attending the meeting as well. This leads Chairman Kreuzer to suggest that someone be given the task of surfing the Village Board agenda items/minutes and various other commissions agenda items/minutes. He would like to see relevant information brought to the attention of the EC so it could be discussed.

In closing, it is decided that the Communication Subcommittee would focus on the following as agenda items; 1. Determine what else needs to be done with the webpage and finish it up by March. What can't be finished should be identified. 2. Determine best ways to interact with the Village and utilize Ebast, Newsletters, Facebook, Twitter, etc. Also identify point person to maintain dialog. 3. Figure out best ways to have one outreach per quarter.

B. Energy Subcommittee - None

C. Recycling Subcommittee - Commissioner Pellico informed the group that moving forward he would like the Recycling Subcommittee to expand participation in the Recycling Extravaganza and focus more on commercial recycling. Commissioner Zelasco also thought generating awareness and helping in the disposal of thing such as batteries, plastic bags/peanuts, paint, florescent bulbs, styrofoam containers, etc would be a good idea. Much discussion is had regarding all of this and members agree all are good ideas. Commissioner Pellico and Zelasco will work on generating a list of places all of these things can be taken to to be safely recycled or disposed of.

D. Sustainable Landscaping - After some discussion, the Commission has decided to change their name to Green Spaces. They also decided to work on the following agenda items; 1. Volcano mulching, 2. Phase II Prairie Path reforestation, 3. Review of the Tree Preservation Ordinance and 4. Possible orange fencing improvement ideas.

E. Other - NONE

- 8. Other Business -** Commissioner Van Gorp asked about changing the term for Student Liaison membership from 3 years to 1 in order to generate greater student involvement. Chairman Kreuzer said he would ask President Demos about this.

9. **Chairman's Report** – Chairman Kreuzer reminded the group again that he would like someone from the Communications Subcommittee to review minutes from other Commissions and the Village Board and get back to the group with relevant information. He also reminded the group that he is requiring each Subcommittee to meet once a month.
10. **Trustee Report** – Trustee Liaison McGinley informed the group they are currently working on the 2014 Budget and that Robert Friedberg has resigned from the Village Board. She also informed the group that the Historic Preservation Commission was hosting an event on February 6, at 10:00 am in the Board Room on how to partner with builders, realtors and architects.
11. **Staff Liaison Report** – Staff Liaison Keenan informed the group that the 2014 Village meeting calendar is out and he went over some yearend recycling data.
12. **Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment** – Chairman Kreuzer motioned seconded by Commissioner Von Gorp to adjourn the meeting. The next scheduled regular meeting will be held on January 21, 2014.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Reviewed by:

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