

MINUTES

COMMISSION:	Environmental	DATE:	8/19/14
QUORUM:	Yes	CALLED TO ORDER:	7:30 p.m.
		ADJOURNED:	10:05 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:	PRESENT: Chairman Adam Kreuzer; Commissioners Kirk Berger, Adrienne Gregory, Benjamin Lowe, David Short, Andrew Van Gorp, John Zelasco; Trustee Liaison Diane McGinley Staff Liaison Justin Keenan, GE Park District Liaison Renae Frigo
	EXCUSED: Commissioner Donald Pellico, Suzanne Cullinane

PUBLIC PRESENT: NONE

1. **Call Meeting to Order –**
Chairman Kreuzer called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in Room 301 of the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.
2. **Public Participation - NONE**
3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes –**
Commissioner Zelasco motioned and Commissioner Van Gorp seconded to approve the May 2014 meeting minutes with the following changes:
 - Jeff Gahris should be spelled “Gahris”
4. **Announcements –**
Members welcome new member Kirk Berger to the Commission.

Renae Frigo (Glen Ellyn Park District Naturalist) attended the meeting as part of the ongoing attempt to collaborate more closely with the Park District. She gave the group some background information on what she does for Park District which includes environmental outreach and control of invasive species in Glen Ellyn parks. Some talk was had about who from the Park District would be able to attend the EC meeting and due to scheduling, Renae told the group it most likely it would be her. Current Park District Board meeting are on the same day and time as the EC meetings. The group agreed the Park District representative who attends the EC meetings should be called GE Park District Liaison.

Chairman Kreuzer recognized all the hard work Public works has done on the Prairie Path; all members agreed much work had been done and thought the area looked amazing.

Staff Liaison Keenan gave the group a quick update on the Big Belly trash/recycling station in town. He also explained to the group why it was placed in its current location; reasons having to do with available light and traffic flow. Chairman Kreuzer asked if there was going to be a second Big Belly installed. Trustee Liaison McGinley informed the group the current Big Belly is being looked at as a pilot program and will be used until the end of the refuse contract. A second Big Belly is not currently scheduled to be installed but could possibly be purchased when the new refuse contract is negotiated. Chairman Kreuzer told trustee McGinley he believed two would be better for a pilot program; Trustee McGinley will look in to this and get back to the group.

5. New Business –

A. Bike Repair Station

Staff Liaison Keenan informed the group that a bike repair station will be installed in town. He also told the group that after researching the subject Staff believed the best location for the station would be directly off the bike path at Prairie Path Park. The repair station has to be bolted to concrete and this location offers an area with a preexisting useable slab. A bike rack would have to be removed but there would no added cost for concrete; which would save the Village money. Commissioner Berger suggested putting business sponsored signs along the path to inform people about the location. All members thought this was a good idea and Staff Liaison Keenan informed the group this was also something they have already begun researching.

6. Old Business

A. – EC/Park District Collaboration

This topic was previous discussed under announcements but Chairman Kreuzer discussed his desire to work on this collaboration and include the county as well; who he will be meeting with. He went on to say he would even like to invite a State Representative to generate awareness.

Park District Liaison Frigo talked about the plots at Village Green and the fact that they would be available and the Park District was willing to let the EC use them. Chairman Kreuzer informed the group that Commissioner Cullinane is currently working with Tina Koral at Garden Works on best ways to use the plots. Trustee Liaison McGinley suggested contacting the District 41 schools and talking to their charity coordinator. They might be able to generate some volunteer help. Members loved this idea and McGinley said she would get some contact names and get back to the group.

B. – Meat Free Monday (discussed in Subcommittee reports)

C. – Commercial Recycling (discussed in Subcommittee reports)

7. Subcommittee Reports –

A. Communications Subcommittee -

Commissioner Lowe gave the group a quick recap on churches he had contacted and said they were hoping to develop a relationship with at least six houses of worship to start with. Chairman Kreuzer again explained to the group how developing a relationship with these faith based organizations could be a great tool to generate awareness. He again asked members to

get any faith based contacts they had to Commissioner Lowe as soon as possible. He then asked Commissioner Gregory if she could put together a list of organizations in town she would like to contact that are not faith based, such as GE Rotery, Women's Club, etc.

Commissioner Gregory gave a final recap on Bike It and told the group she thought it was very successful with some bikes still currently out, but moved to private property. Much talk was had about next year and whether or not to continue with Bike It or think of something new. Commissioner Gregory thought the group should do something new that could include more retailers. The group discussed Commissioner Gregory's idea of having retailers do a kind of window diorama with an environmental message or possibly doing something with chalk art. In the end, members thought a new event was a better idea if it could include more retailers and even vacant spaces in town as well. Members decided the working name for this possible event should be ECO Walk.

Commissioner Van Gorp informed the group that Glen Ellyn's sister city is Le Bouscat, France. He went on to say that the subcommittee had talked about possibly doing something with them; a possibly rivalry of sorts. Right now he thought he would just like to learn a little bit more about the city and see what might work. He handed out the cities strategic plan which he loosely translated. Much talk is had about what could be done and Staff liaison Keenan informed the group that he was the Staff Liaison to the Sister City Committee. He went on to say that representatives from Le Bouscat would be visiting Glen Ellyn on September 29-30. Chairman Kreuzer asked if it would be possible for an EC member to meet with the delegation. Trustee McGinley quickly got permission. Chairman Kreuzer asked Commissioner Von Gorp if he would put something together and send it to him for review.

B. Health and Wellness Subcommittee Report –

Chairman Kreuzer informed the group that he has asked new Commission Member Berger to help with the possible Meatless Monday project. Commissioner Berger informed the group that he had been in touch with both the GE Alliance and the Chamber regarding support for the project. He went on to discuss other things that needed to be done to make the event successful and said it wouldn't happen until 2015.

Chairman Kreuzer asked about the "No Guns" sticker in some retail windows in town and wondered if the police department gave those at no cost. Staff Liaison Keenan said the police do not give these out. Trustee McGinley informed the group that she would ask the police if they have interest in doing this and get back to the group.

Chairman Kreuzer asked Staff Liaison Keenan about the free cloth give-a-way bags he was going to order. Staff Liaison Keenan informed the group that the sample bags he received were too small so he is ordering more. When they come in he will let Chairman Kreuzer know.

C. Recycling Subcommittee Report–

Commissioner Short gave a quick recap on what the subcommittee had talked about regarding moving forward with investigating banning plastic bags. He discussed who the commission might reach out to, how best to do it and problems associated with it. He went on to say he has reached out to the Eco Club at Glenbard West and plans to meet with them. He also plans on reaching out to Glenbard South as well. He also told the group that learning from communities that have already passed a ban on plastic bags would be a great help. He went on to say

Evanston has been successful in passing a ban and their website has some great information. He briefly went over a presentation he got off their website which was presented to residents about the initiative. He informed the group that Evanston has implemented things that the EC has talked about. Much talk is had regarding possible parameters and if the initiative would even work in Glen Ellyn. Commissioner Short told the group he would take a closer look at the Evanston document and look to see what could be adopted for a possible Glen Ellyn initiative. All members agreed this was something they want to pursue and realize it is a long term goal.

Chairman Kreuzer informed the group that there is a new statue regarding commercial recycling on the Governors' desk. He went over the statue in slight detail and explained that other towns have created community recycling franchise agreements. He told the group the subcommittee was going to work on a commercial recycling initiative through this statue.

D. Sustainable Landscaping Subcommittee Report -

Commissioner Van Gorp updated for the group the current status of the Walgreens project. He went on to say he has met with Planning and Development Director Staci Hulseberg and Pizzo & Associates about specific next steps. He handed out a presentation to the group of what he planned to bring to the next Walgreens meeting. He and Chairman Kreuzer also discussed the fact that Staci Hulseberg would hopefully be able to attend this meeting. Park District Liaison Frigo informed the group that she would love to be able to help with this project if they needed her. Commissioner Von Gorp said he would keep her updated.

Staff Liaison Keenan informed the group a Public Works Employee has explored the Village and tagged dead trees on private property with EAB. He went on to say that a letter went out to those residents informing them they needed to have the tree removed.

8. Other Business -

Members talked about getting a table at the new French Market. Commissioner Van Gorp asked about badges and t-shirts members were going to get. Staff Liaison Keenan told the group he could look in to that but he doesn't have a design yet. Commissioner Van Gorp will work on that and get it to him.

9. Chairman Report – NONE

10. Trustee Liaison Report -

Trustee McGinley informed the group that the new restaurant at the corner of Pennsylvania and Main will be opening at the end of November. She also informed the group that two electronic signs will be going up in town; one at the Links to promote Reserve 22 and the other will replace the existing sign at the southeast corner of Crescent and Main.

11. Staff Liaison Report –

Staff Liaison Keenan informed the group he was currently working on the budget for the EC and was going to ask for \$2,000. Chairman Kreuzer asked if they could get \$2,500 and Staff Liaison Keenan said he would need a breakdown of costs.

12. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment –

The next scheduled regular meeting will be held on September 16, 2014.

Respectfully submitted by:
D'Arcy Greenleaf, Environmental Commission Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:
Justin Keenan, Environmental Commission Staff Liaison