

C. Jeff Gahris -

The Glen Ellyn Sustainability group will be having an informative event on January 20, at Shannon's Irish Pub.

6. Old Business – NONE

7. Subcommittee Reports –

A. Recycling Subcommittee -

Commissioner Pellico informed the group that he met with Kay McKeen and a date for the Recycling Extravaganza needed to be set. He was thinking of April 25 and members didn't think this would be a problem. He went on to say that New Life Recycling would be at the event for electronics but he still needed to finalize some of the other vendors. Staff Liaison Keenan confirmed for the group that the event would again be in the commuter parking lot adjacent to the library parking lot. He went on to suggest that the event be extended a few hours due to the amount of residents who had to be turned away last year. He also suggested the group think about eliminating the book exchange.

Commissioner Pellico went over his thoughts on the "Vendor Resource Book" Commissioner Gregory wanted to create. He said the idea was a good one but his fear was that it might be outdated the minute it was printed. Commissioner Gregory went over her vision for the book briefly and Chairman Kreuzer suggested putting together a template or outline and presenting that at the next meeting.

B. Health & Wellness Subcommittee –

Chairman Kreuzer informed the group that Meatless Mondays is still in limbo but an idea that he will still be moving forward with.

C. Sustainable Landscaping Subcommittee Report–

Discussion was had regarding the Manor Woods project which is the park off Newton Avenue just south of Lincoln school. Commissioner Van Gorp informed the group that it was getting cleaned up in hopes of bringing back native species. Park District Liaison Frigo said the Park District owns the Park just south of Manor Woods and their clean up has been very successful. She went on to say that she would work with Commissioner Van Gorp on getting some native seeds to plant. Much talk was had regarding how to generate awareness of what was going on at Manor Woods and also how to better involve residents living close to the park. After much discussion Chairman Kreuzer suggested taking the topic back to subcommittee and coming back with some specific ideas.

Commissioner Umlauf informed the group that the 7th grade community gardens were coming along and would soon be publicized with flyers. The 7th graders were currently thinking of names for the project and would narrow those down soon; the EC will have the final say on the winning name. After some discussion about the project it was decided that the EC would meet on March 24 to finalize name selection and any other details. Commissioner Umlauf also informed the group that the meeting would be open to the public and would be sponsored by the EC and the Park District. The two plots the kids will be using are ones previously used by Garden Works. Chairman Kreuzer asked if Commissioner Umlauf would send information on the event to members.

D. Communications Subcommittee Report –

Commissioner Lowe gave the group an update on his ongoing attempt to reach out to various religious organizations in town. He went on to say he met with St. Thomas Methodist Church and they would like to develop a relationship with the EC. He also said the the church sits on a fair amount of property and they mentioned helping out with community gardens. He will talk to Commissioner Umlauf regarding this. Lastly, he told the group he was contacted by a resident regarding chickens on private property. He is going to meet with the resident and told the group he planned on looking in to this.

Commissioner Van Gorp said he sent Walgreens an email but has not heard back. Chairman Kreuzer suggested he contact Planning and Development Director Staci Hulsberg to help reach out to them. He thought if a request came from her office Walgreens might possibly respond. Park District Liaison Frigo suggested calling the YMCA to see if they would like to get involved and help with the project. All members thought this was a good idea.

Commissioner Gregory handed out a brief description of the “Green Spaces” event and informed the group that this would be the second annual Village event sponsored by the EC. Commissioner Gregory told the group that retailers would be “Giving their Space” to “Green” issues. Much discussion was had regarding the event and members unanimously agreed to move forward with it’s planning. Commissioner Gregory told the group she would put together a more detailed event description, a list of possible themes and a vendor list of who would like to participate. She will have this information at the next meeting so members are able to present the idea at the 2/24 Board Meeting.

Commissioner Kreuzer told the group that he spoke with John Norton about the EC’s webpage. He said John seemed very enthusiastic about making changes to improve the webpage and he, Commissioner Gregory and John would be meeting soon.

8. Other Business - NONE

9. Chairman Report – NONE

10. Trustee Liaison Report –

Trustee Liaison McGinley updated the group on the Taylor Street underpass project and the possibility of a new overpass in town.

11. Staff Liaison Report –

Staff Liaison Keenan informed the group that the Village had a new recycling contract with New Life Recycling. The Village was also thinking of canceling their Aggregation contract rebidding due to rates still being high. He also informed the group that he met with Republic about creating a pilot composting program in town. Republic thought they might be able to do this and will get back to the Village with details soon.

12. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment –

The next scheduled regular meeting will be held on February 17, 2015.

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

Reviewed by:
Justin Keenan, Environmental Commission Staff Liaison