

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the Statutes of the State of Illinois and the Ordinances of the City of Highland Park, the next meeting of the Natural Resources Commission of the City of Highland Park is scheduled to be held at the hour of 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at the City of Highland Park City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois, during which it is anticipated there will be a discussion of the following:

CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK  
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2014  
HIGHLAND PARK CITY HALL  
1707 ST. JOHNS AVENUE  
HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS  
6:30 P.M.

**MEETING AGENDA**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

**III. Approval of Minutes:** November 9, 2014, and November 12, 2014

**IV. Business from the Public**

**V. New Business**

- A. Approval of a Resolution Setting the 2015 Commission Regular Meeting Dates

**VI. Old Business**

- A. Status Report on Exterior Lighting Standard Amendments for All Zoning Districts
- B. Consideration of Bird Friendly Building Ordinance
- C. Status Report on Environmental Movie Screenings

**VII. Other Business**

- A. Commissioner Comments
- B. Administrative Items
- C. Farewell to Outgoing Commissioner Tom Sultan & Mark Nolan Hill

**VIII. Adjournment**

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND  
PARK, ILLINOIS**

**MEETING DATE:** November 9, 2014

**MEETING LOCATION:** 65 Vine Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 2:00 p.m., Chairman Coyle called the meeting to order and the Staff Liaison called the roll.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Coyle, Wagenius, Hannick, Ross, Sultan, Stone

Members Absent: Matthews, Rheinstrom, Stumpf, and Lewittes

The Staff Liaison declared that there was a quorum of the Commission present.

Staff Present: Staff Liaison Karen Berardi

Also Present: Applicant Joe Gutman and Architect William Bickford

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Informational Tour of the Private Single-Family Residence at 65 Vine Avenue in Preparation for the Commission's Consideration of a Steep Slope Variation Application for Excavation to an Existing Single-Family Residential Structure

Commissioners walked the site in the vicinity of the proposed demolition and Architect William Bickford discussed the project.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Coyle adjourned the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Berardi, Secretary

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MINUTES APPROVED BY THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON  
\_\_\_\_\_

- WITH NO CORRECTIONS \_\_\_\_\_
- WITH CORRECTIONS \_\_\_\_\_  
(SEE MINUTES OF [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] MEETING FOR CORRECTIONS)

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND  
PARK, ILLINOIS**

**MEETING DATE:** November 12, 2014

**MEETING LOCATION:** Presession Conference Room, Highland Park City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 6:32 p.m., Chairwoman Coyle called the meeting to order and the Staff Liaison called the roll.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Coyle, Matthews, Hannick, Rheinstrom, Wagenius, Sultan, Ross, Stone and Lewittes

**Members Absent:** Stumpf

The Chairwoman declared that there was a quorum of the Commission present.

**Staff Present:** Staff Liaison Karen Berardi, Planner Eric Olson, and Planner Nusrat Jahan

**Also Present:** Mark Nolan Hill

**MINUTES**

**A. Regular Meeting of the Natural Resources Commission—September 10, 2014**

Commissioner Wagenius moved to approve the minutes of a regular meeting held on October 8, 2014. Commissioner Sultan seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, Chairwoman Coyle declared that the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

**BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Joel Cahn, 26 Lakeview Terrace, objected to the October 8, 2014 minutes as approved because Mr. Cahn believes that they do not accurately report his presentation to the commission to adopt a new science for coastal management and to stop permitting hard coastal structures. He requested that the commission bring in coastal engineers to review the code and further requested that his documents be added to a future agenda.

Mr. Cahn opined that the setbacks at 65 Vine Avenue are not adequate for building purposes, the bluffs are eroding naturally and hard coastal structures are damaging to neighbors.

Chairwoman Coyle thanked Mr. Cahn for his comments and advised that the City Manager's Office would follow up with him on his request to be added to a future agenda.

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. 65 Vine Avenue - Consideration of a Steep Slope Variation Application for Excavation to an Existing Single-Family Residential Structure

City Planner Eric Olson presented on the 65 Vine application, the steep slope variation process and the steep slope standards set forth in the City code. It was noted that the application is asking for a 50' setback, which is 10' additional from the 40' pool setback and therefore, additional earth moving is included in the application.

The applicant's representative William Bickford provided an overview on the Item and noted that there is additional earth moving required to construct the proposed plan and that an additional 6' will be excavated beyond the current pool setback. Another applicant representative Drew Johnson provided an overview on the landscape plan of the project.

Commissioner Ross noted that some of the application items are still coming together before this application is ready to be considered by the Zoning Board of Appeals. Commissioner Sultan stated that he appreciated ambition of the plan, but has concerns with the proposed walk-out terrace due to the already eroded bluff. Sultan noted that the bluff needs more stabilization and has a concern with storm water and drainage of the proposed walk-out terrace. He requested that all reports be submitted as required. Commissioner Matthews noted that the applicants were heading in the right and responsible direction to pursue the project, but the technical reports were not ready.

Commissioner Sultan motioned to direct staff to draft Findings of Fact recommending Zoning Board of Appeals approval on the following conditions:

- 1) The applicant must submit geotechnical, soil borings, drainage or grading plan, and hydrology studies for review and approval by the City Engineer prior to the demolition of the existing pool and further excavation into the steep slope;
- 2) The applicant must submit a landscape plan for review and approval by the City Forester prior to the demolition of the existing pool and further excavation into the steep slope;
- 3) All demolition and excavation must be done from above or atop the bluff;
- 4) The required submittals must provide for storm water runoff to be intercepted and conveyed at the toe of the bluff; and,
- 5) The applicant must submit a construction plan for review and approval by the City Engineer showing that time in which areas are bare and exposed are minimized prior to the demolition of the existing pool and further excavation into the steep slope.

Commissioner Rheinstrom seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, the Chairman declared that the motion passed 7-0. Staff Liaison Berardi noted that she would work with staff to ensure that the reports requested are submitted and approved as part of the Findings of Fact; the Findings will be considered for approval by the Commission on December 10, 2014 on the condition that all reports are received and reviewed by the City Engineer and City Forester.

B. Consideration of Nominations for the Award for Meritorious Service to the Highland Park Environment

The commission discussed the nominations and determined that Michelle Kramer and Dean Mouscher should be presented with the Award for Meritorious Service to the Highland Park Environment. The Commission confirmed a desire to hold the recognition ceremony at City Council Meeting in December, and directed staff to extend invitations to the winners, and prepare certificates.

C. Consideration of Bird Friendly Building Ordinance

Commissioners Sultan and Wagenius presented on the Item, including LEED pilot credit 55 and bird friendly designs. Commissioner Wagenius noted that the state of Minnesota has allowed variations on the LEED rules such as applying the rule only to new and retrofits on old buildings. Commissioner Sultan noted that many of the designs are cost neutral. It was also noted that the Village of Barrington, Illinois has a voluntary ordinance for bird friendly designs.

The commission discussed the recommendation to City Council of amending the bird friendly design ordinance to make it a requirement that all newly constructed properties more than 5,000 square feet include bird friendly designs. Chairwoman Coyle recommended that the topic be tabled for the December meeting and requested that Commissioners Sultan and Wagenius look at comparable size communities who have a similar bird friendly design ordinance. The Item was tabled for the December meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Status Report on Exterior Lighting Standard Amendments for All Zoning Districts  
Chairwoman Coyle tabled this topic for the December meeting.

B. Status Report on Environmental Movie Screenings

Councilwoman Stone promoted the November 14 screening of City Dark at Heller Nature Center at 6:00 p.m. and noted that the City is working with the Park District and Library to schedule the next screening.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Commissioner Comments

There were no commissioner comments this evening.

B. Administrative Items

There were no administrative items this evening.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairwoman Coyle adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Berardi, Assistant to the City Manager

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MINUTES APPROVED BY THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON

- \_\_\_\_\_
- WITH NO CORRECTIONS \_\_\_\_\_
  - WITH CORRECTIONS \_\_\_\_\_  
(SEE MINUTES OF [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] MEETING FOR CORRECTIONS)



# Memorandum

To: Members of the Natural Resources Commission

From: Karen Berardi, Assistant to the City Manager

Date: December 5, 2014

Re: Agenda Items for the December 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Natural Resources Commission

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## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. Approval of a Resolution Setting the 2015 Commission Regular Meeting Dates**

A resolution is attached that will set the 2015 Natural Resources Commission Regular Meeting dates. The November meeting does not follow the standard second Wednesday of the month as that day is November 11, Veterans Day, on which all City offices are closed. The date has been changed to the Tuesday prior on November 10, 2015.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **A. Status Report on Exterior Lighting Standard Amendments for All Zoning Districts**

Sustainability Consultant Grace Rink and a Primera representative will be present to provide a report on recommended changes to the City's code regarding exterior lighting standards and light pollution best practices.

### **B. Consideration of Bird Friendly Building Ordinance**

Commissioners Tom Sultan and Stuart Wagenius will present on bird friendly building designs and LEED Credit 55.

### **C. Status Report on Environmental Movie Screenings**

In coordination with the Park District and Public Library, a movie focused on water conservation and protecting our natural resources of Lake Michigan is proposed in March 2015, in conjunction with World Water Day on March 22, 2015. Some recommended films include : [Watermark](#), [Flow](#) and [The Marion Lake Story](#).

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Resolution Setting 2015 Commission Regular Meeting Dates

**A RESOLUTION SETTING THE SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE  
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK**

WHEREAS, Act 120 of Chapter 5, Illinois Compiled Statutes, requires the Natural Resources Commission to give public notice of its schedule of regular meetings at the beginning of each calendar or fiscal year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

**SECTION ONE:** That the Natural Resources Commission of the City of Highland Park, Lake County, Illinois, adopts hereby the public notice of its regular meetings in the following form:

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Natural Resources Commission of the City of Highland Park will convene at 6:30 p.m. at Highland Park City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois, to conduct its regular meetings during calendar 2015 upon the following dates:

January 14  
February 11  
March 11  
April 8  
May 13  
June 10  
July 8  
August 12  
September 9  
October 14  
November 10  
December 9

**SECTION TWO:** That the Secretary of the Natural Resources Commission of the City of Highland Park be and is directed hereby to post a copy of the Public Notice contained in this Resolution in the City Hall Administrative Offices and to supply copies of this Notice as and in the manner provided by law.

**SECTION THREE:** That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED: December 10, 2014

APPROVED: December 10, 2014

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Ann Coyle, Chairman of the Natural Resources Commission

ATTEST:

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Secretary Karen Berardi