

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, May 9, 2012 at 1707 St. John's 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, MAY 9, 2012
1707 ST. JOHN'S AVENUE
HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS
6:30 P.M.

MEETING AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of Minutes: April 11, 2012

IV. Business from the Public

V. New Business

- A. Status Report on the Recycling Task Force

VI. Old Business

- A. Status Report on the Chicago River Day Cleanup Event on May 12, 2012
- B. Status Report on the Rosewood Park Volunteer Workday Event on May 19, 2012
- C. Status Report on the Highland Park Library Movie Screening of *The Cove* on May 20, 2012
- D. Status Report on the GreenTown Event on October 19, 2012
- E. Status Report on the Green Team
- F. Status Report on the Residential Composting Pilot Program
- G. Status Report on the Polystyrene Recycling Pilot Program

VII. Other Business

- A. Commissioner Comments
- B. Administrative Items

VIII. Adjournment

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

MEETING DATE: April 11, 2012

MEETING LOCATION: Pre-Session Room, City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Avenue, Highland Park, IL

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:33 p.m., Chairman Bogot called the meeting to order and the Staff Liaison called the roll.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bogot, Compher, Dennison, Hill, Himmelfarb (6:45 p.m.), Matthews, Sultan, Naftzger, Meyer, Beck and Brint

Members Absent: None

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

Staff Present: Staff Liaison Barbara Cates

Also Present: Councilman Mandel

MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting of the Natural Resources Commission— February 8, 2012

Commissioner Hill moved for approval of the presented minutes of the regular meeting of the Natural Resources Commission held on Wednesday, February 8, 2012. Commissioner Compher seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, Chairman Bogot declared that the motion passed 6-0.

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mardii MacKimm of 22 Lakeview Place noted that she was present to learn more about the proposed work at 25 Lakeview Terrace.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 25 Lakeview Terrace—Consideration of: 1) a Beach Structure Permit Application for Regulated Activities in the Lake Michigan Protection Zone; and, 2) Draft Findings of Fact Recommending City Council Approval of a Beach Structure Permit Application for Regulated Activities in the Lake Michigan Protection Zone at 25 Lakeview Terrace

Chairman Bogot noted that a Special Meeting had been held on location at 25 Lakeview Terrace prior to the start of the regularly scheduled meeting to give Commissioners the opportunity to inspect the site. The Commission noted that a presentational overview by Staff Liaison Cates was not needed, and then invited Jon Shabica, the applicant's representative, to present an overview of the agenda item. Shabica discussed the bluff instability, sand loss, and failing structures at the site, and the impact of fluctuating lake levels. Shabica noted that the proposed improvements were the least intrusive means of addressing the existing issues and conditions.

Vice Chair Himmelfarb entered the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Martii MacKimm of 22 Lakeview Terrace noted that she lives near the site and has observed that the existing pier is in failing condition. MacKimm noted that she wants to be sure that the proposed improvements will not negatively impact adjacent properties in the long term.

Marjie Ettlinger of 91 Sycamore Place recalled similar improvements at the end of Sycamore Place which had been installed nearly 20 years prior and had maintained their structural and aesthetic integrity.

In response to a question regarding sand deposition from Commissioner Matthews, Mr. Shabica noted that the purpose of the proposed improvements is to dissipate wave energy. Commissioner Hill inquired if steel sheet pile groins would be a better option, and Mr. Shabica explained that it was difficult to transport the machinery necessary for sheet piling down the bluff; the proposed structure was more flexible and could be installed with minimal impact. Commissioner Sultan asked how deep the area would be excavated, and Mr. Shabica replied that the area at the toe of the bluff is anticipated to be excavated a maximum of 1 to 2 feet. Mr. Shabica noted that because the structure is expected to settle, it will not be undermined by fluctuating lake levels. Furthermore, the proposed revetment and perched wetland system has been designed to minimize soil creep and clay seepage.

Commissioner Hill noted that the proposed improvements appeared to be the only viable option to address the existing issues and conditions. Commissioner Sultan noted that there is a clear need for vegetation management on the bluff at 25 Lakeview Terrace and volunteered to write a short note on behalf of the Commission to encourage the applicant to consider addressing the excessive overgrowth of invasive species.

Vice Chair Himmelfarb left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Staff Liaison Cates described the process of approval for a Beach Structure Permit Application and noted that Findings of Fact had been drafted for the Commission's consideration.

Commissioner Hill moved for approval of the Findings of Fact recommending City Council approval of the proposed Regulated Activities within the Lake Michigan Protection Zone at 25 Lakeview Terrace. Commissioner Dennison seconded the motion.

On a voice vote, Chairman Bogot declared that the motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

Councilman Naftzger and Chairman Bogot encouraged Commissioner Sultan to write a short letter to the applicant on behalf of the Commission to encourage him to address the vegetation needs at 25 Lakeview Terrace. Ms. MacKimm thanked the Commission for the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the project and recommended that future public notices regarding Beach Structure Permit Applications are sent from directly from the City instead of from the applicant.

B. Status Report on the Braeside School Fourth Grade Class Trout Release and Ravine Education Initiatives

Commissioner Hill and Park District Representative Meyer reported that the fourth grade class at Braeside Elementary School prepared posters illustrating their work raising rainbow trout which were now on display in the kiosks at Rosewood and Millard Parks. Commissioners were encouraged to attend the trout release event the morning of April 13th. Staff Liaison Cates noted that she would be working with Commissioner Hill and Park District staff to install a display at the library at 3:00 p.m. on May 30th, and Commissioners are welcome to attend and help with the effort.

C. Discussion of Commission Involvement in Chicago River Day on May 12, 2012

Chairman Bogot and Commissioner Hill noted that the Commission would be helping with the Chicago River Day cleanup event at the Target store parking lot during the morning of May 12th. Staff Liaison Cates noted that arrangements had been made for a dumpster at the location. At the Commission's request, Staff Liaison Cates noted that she would post an announcement on the City's website and the Commission's Facebook page.

D. Discussion of the Need to Formulate a Recommendation to Establish a Recycling Task Force

Councilman Mandel noted that the recycling statistics were stagnant, likely because many condominium buildings and businesses in town don't have recycling service. Mandel reported that he had discussed the need for a Recycling Task Force with the City Council and received consent to work on the issue with two Commissioners. The Task Force will be examining the need for mandatory recycling and a kick-off meeting will be scheduled soon.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Status Report on an Upcoming Movie Screening at the Highland Park Library

Commissioner Dennison reported that *The Cove* will be screening at the Highland Park Library on May 20th at 2:00 p.m. Staff Liaison Cates noted that she would post an announcement on the Commission Facebook page.

B. Status Report on the Green Team

Chairman Bogot noted that Vice Chair Himmelfarb had to leave the meeting and would report on the agenda item in May.

C. Status Report on the Polystyrene Recycling Pilot Program

Councilman Mandel noted that the most recent polystyrene recycling rates were flat. Mandel reported that Dart donated money for the GreenTown event.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Dennison noted that Jewel Osco has restarted the Five for the Future program. Student Representative Beck noted that a High School organization will be distributing bags on April 20th.

Councilman Mandel noted that the GreenTown Advisory Committee kick-off meeting had been recently held, and that the Committee is currently working to find a keynote speaker. GreenTown will be held on October 19th at the Art Center and the Community House. Councilman Mandel indicated that he will continue to keep the Commission updated via Staff Liaison Cates.

Councilman Mandel reported that he is putting together a residential curbside food compost pickup pilot program which is anticipated to begin in the summer. Councilman Mandel and Staff Liaison Brint discussed the needs and purpose of the pilot program.

Commissioners Sultan and Hill reported that they had gone for a walk to determine the need for ravine cleanup and had been impressed with the existing conditions. Sultan suggested that future cleanup efforts should be targeted to beaches as there is no current need to clean up the major ravines. Sultan noted that he would like to plan a bike tour of the ravines in Fort Sheridan, to be held in the fall.

Councilman Naftzger encouraged Commissioners to take control of their Yellow Pages delivery by using Yellowpagesoptout.com. Chairman Bogot directed Staff Liaison Cates to research methods to opt out of unsolicited Chicago Tribune Local delivery and report back to the Commission.

Staff Liaison Cates noted that she would email a list of the Commission's upcoming special event dates and also post them to the Commission's Facebook page. Cates reminded Commissioners to "friend" the Facebook page and to complete the Open Meetings Act training as soon as possible.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Bogot adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara E. Cates, Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED BY THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON _____

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

DRAFT



Memorandum

To: Members of the Natural Resources Commission

From: Barbara E. Cates, Planner

Date: May 3, 2012

Re: Agenda Items for the May 9th Meeting of the Natural Resources Commission

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Status Report on the Recycling Task Force

Chairman Bogot and Councilman Mandel will provide information and lead a discussion of this agenda item.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Status Report on the Chicago River Day Cleanup Event on May 12, 2012

Chairman Bogot will provide information and lead a discussion of this agenda item.

B. Status Report on the Rosewood Park Volunteer Workday Event on May 19, 2012

Park District Representative Meyer will provide information and lead a discussion of this agenda item.

C. Status Report on the Highland Park Library Movie Screening of *The Cove* on May 20, 2012

Commissioner Dennison will provide information and lead a discussion of this agenda item.

D. Status Report on the GreenTown Event on October 19, 2012

Councilman Mandel will provide information and lead a discussion of this agenda item. For advance information, please feel free to see the GreenTown website at:

<http://greentownconference.com/>

E. Status Report on the Green Team

Vice Chair Himmelfarb will provide information and lead a discussion of this agenda item.

F. Status Report on the Residential Composting Pilot Program

Councilman Mandel will provide information and lead a discussion of this agenda item.

G. Status Report on the Polystyrene Recycling Pilot Program

Councilman Mandel will provide information and lead a discussion of this agenda item.