

VILLAGE OF GLENCOE  
PLAN COMMISSION

Regular Meeting  
August 26, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Plan Commission of the Village of Glencoe, Cook County was called to order by Chairman Thomas in the Village Hall Council Chamber at 7:36 p.m. on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of August 2015.

2. ROLL CALL

The following were present:

Caren Thomas, Chairman, Public-at-Large Representative  
Barbara Miller, Vice-Chairman, Village Board Representative  
Louis Goldman, Glencoe Public Library Representative  
Ed Goodale, Zoning Board of Appeals Representative  
Bruce Huvard, Public-at-Large Representative (*arrived 7:40 p.m.*)  
Dudley Onderdonk, Glencoe Park District Representative  
Gary Ruben, School District #35 Representative

The following were absent:

Marya Morris, Public-at-Large Representative  
Harriet Resnick, Public-at-Large Representative  
Tom Scheckelhoff, Historic Preservation Commission Representative

The following were also present:

Philip Kiraly, Village Manager  
David Mau, Director of Public Works  
Nathan Parch, Planning & Development Administrator  
Lee Brown, Village Planner

3. CONSIDER THE JULY 22, 2015 PLAN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the July 22, 2015 Plan Commission meeting were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

None

5. CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF DOWNTOWN TUNEUP

Chairman Thomas stated that the meeting would commence discussion on the topics of urban form and downtown character in those areas directly controlled by the Village. Ms. Thomas emphasized that no change to the boundaries of downtown was under consideration as part of the discussion. She also stressed that Village Planner Lee Brown's forthcoming presentation included no specific proposals for consideration. Instead the intent was to initiate thought about how Glencoe's public

spaces could be enhanced and what recommendations for improvements to those spaces should be included in the plan for downtown.

Chairman Thomas also stated that staff recently mailed courtesy postcards to all residents within and surrounding downtown as a heads up that over the next several months the Plan Commission will be discussing planning guidelines for urban form and “what if” concepts for publicly owned properties downtown.

Mr. Brown presented a slideshow of photos illustrating examples of public outdoor spaces from various cities – local, national, and around the world. The photos showed how the design and function of these public spaces were shaped through the use of entryway features, festoon lighting, outdoor rooms, street furniture (bus shelters, benches, etc.), art, color, flowers and landscaping, shared spaces (pedestrians, bicycles, & vehicles), way-finding signage, and business signage.

Mr. Brown raised several questions for Commissioners to ponder, including:

- *Should the intersection of Park Ave. and Green Bay Rd. be the only gateway into downtown?*
- *Where are the special places for people to gather, mingle, and engage?*
- *How are comfort and attraction in all seasons, day and evening, increased?*
- *Would festive lighting enhance or diminish the unique character?*
- *What wayfinding assistance is needed for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians?*

Commissioner Goldman commented that ideally there should be an additional gateway, and that opportunity exists at the intersection of Temple Ct. and Green Bay Rd. Secondary gateways could be added at the intersections of Park Ave. and Sheridan Rd. and Hazel Ave. and Sheridan Rd. to direct people into downtown.

Commissioner Goodale noted that there are peripheral uses west of Green Bay Road that are a part of downtown, but not included within the boundaries of the downtown zoning district, such as the Metra station and commuter parking lots, that should be considered in terms of where to locate gateway improvements.

The addition of festive lighting was discussed as an enhancement to enliven areas of downtown, including Village Ct., Tudor Ct., and the passageway adjacent to the BMO Harris Bank drive-through.

The possibility of a unique treatment/identity for Tudor Ct. was discussed to highlight the area as an emerging arts district.

In terms of wayfinding signage, Commissioner Onderdonk encouraged staff to consider a temporary solution given the opening of Writers Theatre in early 2016 and the additional visitors that it will bring to downtown.

It was agreed that discussion on this topic will continue at the next meeting.

## 6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Goodale shared information regarding the Glencoe Historical Society’s ‘Wright in Glencoe’ housewalk on September 20<sup>th</sup>, a new exhibit opening in conjunction with the housewalk on the history of Ravine Bluffs and Wright’s work in Glencoe, and the Ravine Bluffs Centennial Park and Station Legacy Project.

Commissioner Onderdonk stated that the Park Board recently approved a land transfer of 2,000 square feet from the Village of Glencoe to the Park District for possible future construction of the waiting station in connection with the Ravine Bluffs Centennial Park and Station Legacy Project.

7. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING OF THE PLAN COMMISSION

The next meeting of the Plan Commission was scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2015.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Parch  
Planning & Development Administrator