

**VILLAGE OF GLENCOE
SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE**

**Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 25, 2020- 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

The following Task Force members were (virtually) present:

Barney Gallagher, Chair

Dudley Onderdonk

Sandy Culver

Catherine Procopi

Lisa Fremont

Larry Reilly

Hall Healy

Jennifer Varela

Linda Lin

The following task force members were not (virtually) present:

Peter Mulvaney

Gray Drobny

Ashley Kain Silver

Also present were:

Helyn Latham, Resident

Chris Leiner, Park District Director

Megan Olson, Staff Liaison

2. OPENING/PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Gallagher explained that Governor Pritzker suspended the procedural requirement of the Illinois Open Meetings Act that a quorum of a public body be physically present to conduct a public meeting, which meant that the GSTF will continue to hold virtual meetings until further notice. Additionally, due to the supplemental public participation rules approved by the Village Board in April 2020, the Chair explained that all members of the public should submit public comments via voicemail or email. Chair Gallagher asked Staff Liaison Megan Olson if there were any public comments that had been submitted before the meeting. No comments had been submitted.

3. CONSIDERATION OF THE JULY 28, 2020 STF MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Mr. Onderdunk and seconded by Mr. Healy and unanimously adopted by all those present by roll call vote, the meeting minutes for the July 28, 2020 were approved with the corrections noted on page 6 of the agenda packet, paragraph two.

4. JULY ACTION PLAN

Chairperson Gallagher checked the status of the items on the July Action Plan. Much of the conversation focused on the Library water and recycling webinar series, reusable bags, planning for green yard initiative, and Donate and Recycle Day. Various forums for communicating to the community about initiatives were brought up, and Ms. Fremont volunteered to share her media forums list with the group. Another

conversation led to an idea about featuring “natural” lawns and yards in Glencoe as well as posting a natural landscaping article that was published in the Glencoe Anchor on the blog and linking it to the Botanic Gardens web presentation.

Ms. Olson also relayed an update from the Village Public Works Department on the Lake Michigan Watershed Plan, which will be completed by the Lake County Storm Water Management Commission at the end of 2020. Village staff met with the commission planners in early August to discuss the plan’s findings as well as to provide a list of recommended projects to be included in the plan. This plan project list will include Ravine 2C and will be important for securing grant funding in the future.

5. UPDATE ON BLOG AND REVIEW ARTICLE ASSIGNMENTS

Chair Gallagher asked Ms. Olson to provide an update on the GSTF blog’s progress. The blog has been established and is linked to the GSFT webpage. The blog now needs content. The article schedule for the rest of 2020 updated. The plan is to have at least one article posted every month and more articles can be published. The blog will serve as a repository of information for the public and an archive of the community awareness and education campaigns spearheaded by the GSTF.

Ms. Olson requested that articles be submitted at the beginning of the month. In the past, articles had been reviewed by the task force chair, the staff liaison, as well as other interested members. It was agreed that the articles would continue to be reviewed in the same way in the future. Ms. Olson asked that all members submit lively titles for their posts, a one to two sentence introduction/summary of the post, and at least three photos. Photos should be taken by the task force members if at all possible to avoid any copyright restrictions. The updated article assignment list is attached below.

6. STF PLANNING DISCUSSION

Chair Gallagher led a discussion on planning initiatives for the GSTF. This planning initiative focused on restructuring the GSFT into a more formal subcommittee format that would center on the (environmental) sustainability priorities laid out in the EcoDistricts Protocol. If there was enough interest from the group, subcommittees would be formed around the following “sub-priorities”:

- Energy (Sub-Priority of Resource Regeneration)
- Water Conservation (Sub-Priority of Resource Regeneration)
- Recycling (Sub-Priority of Resource Regeneration)
- Ravines and Tree Canopy Preservation (Sub-Priority of Living Infrastructure)
- Green Landscaping and Lawns (Sub-Priority of Living Infrastructure)
- ~~ATP Implementation~~ Active Transportation (Sub-Priority of Connectivity)
- Green Business Practices and Recognition (Sub-Priority of Connectivity)
- Public Awareness (Sub-Priority of Connectivity)
- EcoDistricts Advocacy (Sub-Priority of Connectivity)

Each sub-committee would have a maximum of three GSTF members (and an unlimited number of “non-member” members.) These members would be responsible for the Sub-Priority. This includes establishing goals, objectives, strategies, and an annual achievable

action plan. The group agreed to structure themselves in this format and to send Mr. Gallagher two preferences for sub-committee membership. After the formation of the groups, conversations will continue on how to structure planning documents and action plans going forward.

7. SIMPLE RECYCLING

Ms. Varela updated the group on the status Simple Recycling curbside textile recycling program. Several members of the GSTF and Village staff met with a representative from Simple Recycling to discuss the program and that the Village was reviewing an agreement with the contractor. The program is available in a number of North Shore communities. Once the program is started, Simple Recycling will send welcome kits to every household in the community with program information as well as several orange recycling bags. Residents will be instructed to place their unwanted textiles-such as clothing, rags and bedding in good or poor condition-next to their recycling bins in the orange recycling bags on their primary pick-up day. Simple Recycling's services will coincide with the LRS collection routes on a regular schedule.

There is no cost to the Village or to residents to participate in the program. The Village is obligated to assist with public information and education of the program and will help residents with missed pickups by directing them to call Simple Recycling. The Village Hall will also store Simple Recycling bags for the convenience of residents. One item to note, which may be a concern to a few residents, is that Simple Recycling is a for-profit company. While the program was generally viewed favorably by the group, there was some concern that this program may be in competition with the Northshore Exchange.

A motion was made by Ms. Lin, and seconded by Ms. Fremont, to recommend that the Village of Glencoe works with Simply Recycling to implement the curbside textile recycling program. After some discussion about whether there should be a courtesy call to the Northshore Exchange, the motion was passed by roll call vote by all those in attendance.

8. TERRACYCLES

Ms. Fremont updated the group on the status of Terracycles recycling programs. Several members of the GSTF and the Village staff met with a representative from Terracycles to discuss free drop-off programs for hard-to-recycle product packaging. It suggested that the Village participate in beauty product recycling, razor recycling, and silver lined bags recycling. The recycling boxes would be placed in the Village Special Recycling Vestibule at the Public Works Service Building. Once the collection box is full, it will be mailed to back to Terracycles by pre-paid labels. There is no obligation from the Village to continue the program if they wish to stop.

Ms. Fremont made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Culver, for the Sustainability Task Force to recommend that the Village of Glencoe work with Terracycles to expand options to recycle at the Village's Recycling Vestibule Drop-off Center, including hard-to-recycle beauty products, personal shaving razors, and silver lined packing bags. After some discussion about the possibility of adding the coffee pods (k-cups) to the drop-off program, the motion was passed by roll-call vote by all those present.

9. UPDATES

A. Village Updates: Chairman Gallagher asked Ms. Olson to update the STF on changes to the Village Sidewalk Snow Removal Program. Ms. Olson reported that the Village currently maintains 60 miles of sidewalks during the winter snow events. However, because of limited staff, there is lag time between the end of a snowfall event and the start, as well as the end, of snow removal on sidewalks. The lag, as well as the snow removal equipment, which leaves a one-inch layer of snow, can create ice on the sidewalks. As a result, many residents walk on the parkways or the streets to avoid the “cleared” sidewalks and there is a concern that the Village may be creating a hazard for residents. The Village is finalizing a pilot program for the coming winter to only remove snow from priority sidewalks, which will reduce the lag time and reduce the formation of ice on the sidewalks. The priority routes were created from the priority walking routes as described in the Active Transportation Plan and will connect and reach every corner of the Village.

The GSTF members did ask a few questions, including if the pilot program meant that some sidewalks would not be cleared of snow. Ms. Olson replied that many of the residents already were removing snow from their sidewalks and that most residents will only have to walk a block before reaching a cleared priority sidewalk.

B. Park District: Mr. Onderdonk reported that the Park District was working with the Glencoe Historical Society on the Booth Cottage project. Work was also commencing on the linear park to improve the Green Bay Trail. Much of the funding for this project was funded by grants, which were awarded, in part, to the work that went into several planning initiatives, including the Active Transportation Plan.

C. Library: Ms. Lin reported that the Library reopened in July. The children’s section is open by appointment only and the curbside pickup continues. The Library is exploring a locker system for patrons to pick up books after hours. Library programming will remain virtual through the end of the year.

10. DISCUSSION ON CURRENT INITIATIVES AND ASSIGNED TASKS

Many of the current initiatives and assigned tasks had been discussed as a part of the July Action Plan.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to be discussed.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

No public comments were received during the meeting.

13. CLOSING FAREWELL AND ADJOURN

Then there being no further business to come before the Sustainability Task Force, upon motion being made, seconded and unanimously adopted by all those present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Green Lawns Priority

Planning Document for 2021



The Issue

Overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides have potential detrimental impacts upon our environment. Indiscriminate use of insecticides can negatively impact beneficial insect populations such as bees and butterflies. Fertilizer and herbicide runoff moves these chemicals into the Lake Michigan and Skokie Lagoon waters creating risks to drinking water, negative impact on fish populations and contribute to the annual green algae bloom in the Lagoons which is harmful to aquatic plants and fish species in the Lagoons.

The Vision

A healthy ecosystem at the local level is a critical component of a sustainable community where native plants provide habitats for insects, birds and other wild life and serve to prevent erosion and wastewater runoff into the ravines and watersheds. Use of non-chemical fertilizers and pesticides are a key element in attaining that sustainable future.

The Objectives

Foster the reduction of chemical pesticide and fertilizer uses in the community in general
 Increase the growth of native plant species in lawns and yards
 Foster the elimination of non-native invasive species in lawns and yards

Strategies

Use the library and print educational pieces to inform the community of their options in time to affect their planning.

Create on the STF Blog a reservoir of useful information on green lawn practices. Enlist ally organizations in a collaboration to obtain the Green Lawn objectives.

Action Plan 2021				
<i>Strategies</i>	<i>Action Items</i>	<i>Person Responsible</i>	<i>Planning Period</i>	<i>Item Due</i>
Informational Campaign	Create an educational program schedule tied to the calendar with events and articles providing green options at the time that homeowners are taking specific actions in their yards and gardens March 2021: Library program focused on how to plan your garden for the coming year CBG presenter and a follow up article in the Glencoe News conveying the same information	Hall	Jan-21	Mar-21
	April/May Utilize Sustainable Sunday and blog reminders and tips on fertilizing and weed control options	Helyn		
	June library program on identification of invasive species and ways to eliminate Park District Presenter	Sandy	Apr-21	Jun-21
	July August Sustainable Sunday and blog pieces on irrigation practices to conserve water and avoid runoff	Hall		Jul-21
	September/ October how to mulch fallen leaves	Helyn		Sep-21

<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Action Items</i>	<i>Person Responsible</i>	<i>Planning Period</i>	<i>Item Due</i>
Blog Information Reservoir	Collect relevant articles from CBG archives - January 2021	Hall	Jan-21	
	Publish list of invasive species and native plants on blog -January 2021	Sandy	Jan-21	
	Identify other sources of information - on going	Helyn		
<i>Initiatives</i>	<i>Action Items</i>	<i>Person Responsible</i>	<i>Planning Period</i>	<i>Item Due</i>
Ally Organizations	Convene a joint meeting with representatives of CBG, Park District, Friends of the GB Trail and the Glencoe Community Garden to explore a collaborative program	Hall		Dec-20