

**VILLAGE OF GLENCOE
SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE**

**Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 22, 2022- 7:00 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The regular meeting of the Glencoe Sustainability Task Force conducted virtually in accordance with Governor Pritzker’s Executive Order 2022-05 was called to order by Chairperson Barney Gallagher at 7:04 p.m. on the 22nd day of February 2022.

The following Task Force members were virtually present:

*Barney Gallagher, Chair
Peter Mulvaney, Vice-Chair
Sandy Culver
Hall Healy
Helyn Latham
Linda Lin
Catherine Procopi
Jennifer Varela*

The following task force members were absent:

*Bob Breisblatt
Lisa Brooks
Tina Hostert
Joshua Markus
Larry Reilly
Laurie Tuchman*

Also present were:

*Jaimie Fishman, Volunteer
Andrew Kim, Glencoe Public Library Executive Director
Eric Loeb, Volunteer
Catherine Wang, Glencoe School District 35 Superintendent
Jeff Mawdsley, Staff Liaison/Public Works Management Analyst*

Chairperson Gallagher stated that a quorum of members of the Task Force was present via remote access and that Management Analyst Jeff Mawdsley was physically present at Village Hall pursuant to the Open Meetings Act (OMA).

2. CONSIDERATION OF THE JANUARY 25, 2022, STF MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Mr. Mulvaney and seconded by Mr. Healy and unanimously adopted by all those present by roll call vote, the meeting minutes for January 25, 2022, were approved.

3. GLENCOE SURVEY STATUS

Chairperson Gallaher asked Analyst Mawdsley to give an update since Ms. Hostert could not attend the meeting. Analyst Mawdsley reported that the survey was finalized and was released publicly. An announcement has been placed on the Village’s Webpage, social media posts are being prepared for this week, and information will go out in the Village’s

weekly e-news. The printing of the fliers and table tents is being finalized. The school district has been approached about sending out notifications through their parent communications.

Analyst Mawdsley reported that he and Ms. Hostert had assembled the gift baskets last Friday at Village Hall and that they were very attractive. They are currently located in Village Hall, and members of the committee are working to have these displayed in prominent places in the community. Chairperson Gallagher reviewed the generous donors that contributed to the gift baskets.

Chairperson Gallagher discussed working with different houses of worship to get these out, and several members of the task force volunteered to reach out to these organizations. There was also some discussion about reaching out to other groups like Friends of the Green Bay Trail. There was some discussion about how to get the baskets displayed in the community. Chairperson Gallagher noted that 23 businesses had donated. Ms. Varela said that was amazing support from the business community. There was some discussion about communicating the names of the businesses that donated with the survey promotion.

Chairperson Gallagher praised Ms. Hostert for all her hard work on the survey, saying that she had done a fantastic job.

4. MEMBERSHIP - STUDENT MEMBERS

Chairperson Gallagher welcomed Superintendent Wang to the meeting. Superintendent Wang said that the students had been contacted and told that a member of the GSTF would reach out to them. Chairperson Gallagher entertained ideas about how to get these students involved. Mr. Mulvaney suggested having two members of the GSTF work with the student members in a mentor capacity, and that the students could take ownership of a project to produce a deliverable. Mr. Mulvaney said he would be happy to work with students as a mentor. Superintendent Wang said she would welcome that approach. Ms. Procopi said she would also be willing to serve as a mentor. Chairperson Gallagher said he would reach out to the students and set up a kick-off meeting with the students and the mentors.

5. EARTH DAY PLANNING

Analyst Mawdsley reported that the group had backed off trying to put together an event for 2022 but will work on putting on an event for 2023. A site has been identified off Old Green Bay Road.

6. DONATE AND RECYCLE DAY

Analyst Mawdsley stated that the date had been set for May 14, 2022. Analyst Mawdsley also said he had reached out to the vendors that were used last year. Analyst Mawdsley gave an overview of the event. There was also a discussion about updating the design of the STF t-shirts to incorporate the Ruby the Hummingbird logo.

7. PLASTIC BAN ORDINANCE

Ms. Varela stated that she was recusing herself from discussions on a plastic ban ordinance. Mr. Gallagher introduced the subject by saying that since the Village was a non-home rule municipality, the Village could not pass an ordinance that would ban or tax single-use plastics. The Village could pass a resolution that would be a statement of values rather than an enforceable ordinance. Chairmen Gallagher said that he would like the Garbage and

Waste Reduction group to work on this. Superintendent Wang commented that the pandemic has put a damper on some of the more sustainable practices the schools implemented. They have had to use some single-use plastics to maintain hygiene standards. Chairperson Gallagher said he would like to see what the survey results were on this subject before moving forward with this.

8. CHICKEN COOP ORDINANCE INPUT

Analyst Mawdsley said he spoke with other communities to gain insight into their experiences with backyard chickens. He said that his findings were that there were typically not very many residents that kept chickens, and that most complaints were related to people not following the established rules, like keeping chickens without a permit.

Chairmen Gallagher asked if the GSTF would like to issue a letter of support to change the ordinance and allow backyard chickens. Mr. Healy volunteered to draft a support letter.

9. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Chairperson Gallagher said that the Village was in the preliminary stages of updating its comprehensive plan and that the GSTF would be included in the process. Chairperson Gallagher said that the Village would hire an outside consultant to guide the process, and it would take two years or more to complete. Mr. Mulvaney said that experience with eco-districts will be factored into the selection of a consultant. There was additional discussion about participation in the process, and Chairperson Gallagher said that there will be many opportunities for the GSTF to weigh in, but it's too early in the process to know what that would look like. Chairperson Gallagher said he wanted everyone to start thinking about the big picture items that the GSTF would like to see.

10. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES (AS NEEDED)

A. *Carbon Reduction*: Chairperson Gallagher said that he had some discussions with both the Chamber of Commerce and the Village Manager, and they were both supportive of the concept of car-less days. However, Chairperson Gallagher said he wanted to see the results of the survey before taking further action.

B. *Green Lawns*: Mr. Healy said that the first meeting of the multi-community consortium on phasing out of gas-powered leaf blowers had its first meeting. One of the first things they were looking at was a review of the current technology and a way to minimize the impact of a transition.

Ms. Culver also reported that the Green Lawns group met to update the progress of the Ruby Mascot purchase. Ms. Latham said that the group was hoping that other groups and entities would donate to its purchase. Ms. Latham showed a concept drawing.

Superintendent Wang said that she liked the concept of the costume but would like to effectively pair it with age-appropriate messages. Ms. Varela said that she would like somehow a message that states the costume is made with upcycled or recycled materials.

Mr. Mulvaney spoke about his concern about a person that could accompany Ruby to answer questions and manage crowds.

Ms. Latham said that the cost of the costume is over \$6,000. There was some discussion of doing a fundraising campaign, such as doing a Go Fund Me campaign. Mr. Mulvaney also suggested putting together a request to environmental education foundations.

Superintendent Wang asked if the proposal was included in the packet. Mr. Healy said he would make sure an updated proposal was provided to the GSTF.

There was also some discussion about the recent Ruby article in the Glencoe Compass. It was suggested that the Green clubs at the schools may be a source for future questions.

Superintendent Wang said that they were going to renovate the outdoor playground area at South Elementary and would like some guidance on how to highlight some environmental messaging and use Ruby to help with that. Ms. Latham said that she would consult on that as a member of the Green Lawns group.

There was some discussion about having students create a computer game that helps teach about putting the right items in the proper recycle bin, and how this could be used for public education.

11. GLENCOE COMMUNITY BOARD AND COMMITTEE UPDATES (AS NEEDED)

- A. *Village*: Analyst Mawdsley said that the EV charging station has been installed, but the unit is not yet activated. The Village is working on getting the electricity activated. Chairperson Gallagher asked if there would be an opportunity for adding the GSTF logo to that. Analyst Mawdsley said that the Village Manager had expressed interest in adding the GSTF logo to some of the sustainable initiatives, like the charging station and the EV car the Village was acquiring.

Analyst Mawdsley reported that officials from the Village and SWANCC met to discuss solid waste hauling in the Village. Analyst Mawdsley noted that the Village's diversion rate was a little over 35 percent, which is the highest among all the SWANCC communities.

Analyst Mawdsley reported that Simple Recycling was going to be changing the textile recycling program. They are now requiring appointments to pick up donations.

Analyst Mawdsley reported that the Village had not only received Tree City USA recognition again from the Arbor Day Foundation, but it had also received the Growth Award or recognition of a higher-level commitment to urban forestry.

Analyst Mawdsley also reviewed staffing changes with the Village.

Chairperson Gallagher expanded on the meeting the Village had with SWANCC, and that one of their biggest issues was with contamination in the recycling stream. Chairperson Gallagher said in his conversations with other entities, like the Park District and the Botanic Garden, they were having similar issues. Chairperson Gallagher suggested that all these organizations, including the Village, could partner together to develop some educational programs to address this. Analyst Mawdsley will reach out to SWANCC to see what resources and best practices they can offer. There was also some discussion about the payment the Village receives from LRS for recyclables.

- C. *Library*: Ms. Lin reported the Friends of the Glencoe Library is delaying its used book sale for the time being.

D. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Healy said he has been in contact with a resident that is interested in the GSTF's activities and may want to volunteer.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

Analyst Mawdsley said that no public comments were submitted.

F. CLOSING FAREWELL AND ADJOURN

Then there being no further business to come before the GSTF, a motion to close the meeting was made by Mr. Mulvaney and seconded by Ms. Culver. Being no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.