



Village of Glencoe

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of the Sustainable Working Group

FROM: Nathan J. Parch, Community Development Analyst

DATE: August 26, 2011

SUBJECT: July 25, 2011 Meeting Summary

The second meeting of the Sustainability Working Group (SWG) was called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Conference Room at Village Hall. The following members were present: Chairman Walt Eckenhoff, Beth Dunn, Hall Healy, Andre Lerman, Laurie Morse, Dudley Onderdonk, Mark Piltingsrud, Larry Smith, and Community Development Analyst Nathan Parch. Jean Hahn was absent.

OVERVIEW OF SUSTAINABILITY EFFORT IN GLENCOE TO DATE

Nathan Parch reviewed a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the history of the Village's sustainability effort as follows:

In 2009, the Sustainability Study was completed by the Contextual Design Review Commission (CDRC), concluding an approximately 9-month long review and analysis. The Sustainability Study serves as a high level introduction addressing the components of a sustainability plan (Chapter I), what sustainable practices Glencoe currently employs, what neighboring communities are or are not doing, and what national communities on the forefront of sustainability are doing (Chapter II). It concludes with broad recommendations and next steps (Chapter III).

In 2010, the Village Board directed the Plan Commission to undertake sustainability as one of its projects. The Village Board determined that the Plan Commission, based on its broad representation, was well suited to spearhead the kind of Village-wide support and involvement needed for a successful effort in the sustainability area. In particular, the Village Board charged the Plan Commission with reviewing the recommended strategies and next steps included in the Sustainability Study. The Plan Commission hosted two Forum Nights in which 15+ public bodies, community groups, organizations, and boards participated in sharing with the Commission their current and future sustainable initiatives, practices, and policies. Following the forums, the Plan Commission narrowed its focus to the following four key initiatives:

- 1) *Develop a user-friendly, intuitive website for residents and students to learn more about best practices;*
- 2) *Form a “Green Alliance”, collaborating with public bodies, community groups, organizations, and boards to promote broader sustainable programs;*
- 3) *Conduct an internal audit of Village regulations to identify any barriers that may inadvertently impede sustainable efforts; &*
- 4) *Pursue pilot projects that educate and encourage residents to undertake sustainable measures in their own households.*

In June 2011, the Village Manager formed the Sustainability Working Group to assist him, the Plan Commission, and Village Board in advancing sustainability initiatives in the community. The working group is advisory in nature and is comprised of nine members, including five (5) at large members and one (1) from each of the following: Plan Commission, School District, Park District, and Chicago Botanic Garden. The lifespan of the working group is expected to be 12 to 18 months.

REVIEW SCOPE AND GOALS OF FOUR SUBCOMMITTEES

Chairman Eckenhoff reviewed the four areas of focus – website (organization and content), pilot projects, village ordinance audit, and outreach initiatives – and explained they were previously established by the Plan Commission. Each member was asked to select two areas to be involved with as a subcommittee. Members were asked to contact Chairman Eckenhoff regarding their selections in advance of the next meeting.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVE BODIES

Andre Lerman stated that the Park District will begin its master facilities plan this fall.

Beth Dunn noted that the Botanic Garden will soon begin a shoreline restoration of the north lake. She also announced that the next Commission of North Shore Environment Commissioners (CONSEC) meeting will be held on Saturday, August 27th.

Mark Piltingsrud summarized the Contextual Design Review Commission’s proposed amendments to encourage sustainable/green design.

Laurie Morse noted several area water quality issues stemming from existing drainage patterns and recent flooding. She also noted the Village Board’s possible closure of the Dell Place ravine/beach.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 29th at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

cc: Paul Harlow, Village Manager
Scott Feldman, Village President
Caren Thomas, Plan Commission Chairman