

**AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Agenda Item number: 3.b

Title:

Natural Resources Commission Minutes – Information only

Presenter:

AJ Reineking

Meeting: Government Services Committee

Date: July 22, 2019

Proposed Cost: \$ n/a

Budgeted Amount: \$

Not Budgeted:

☐**Executive Summary** *(if not budgeted please explain):*

A duty of the Natural Resources Commission is to advise and consult with the Government Services Committee. The June 13, 2019 Natural Resources Commission meeting minutes are attached.

**Attachments** *(please list):*

\* Natural Resources Commission Minutes – June 2019 meeting minutes.

**Recommendation/Suggested Action** *(briefly explain):*

For information only.

**MINUTES  
CITY OF ST. CHARLES  
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING  
RALPH GRATHOFF, CHAIRMAN  
JUNE 13, 2019**

**Members Present:** Chairman Ralph Grathoff, Kathy Brens, Heather Goudreau, Lee Haggas, Jillian Leturno, Suzi Myers, Loren Nagy, Pam Otto, Caroline Wilfong

**Members Absent:** Isabella Bernat, Jon Duerr, Chloe Fanning, Tom Galante, Ryan Johnson, Claire Norman

**Others Present:** Chris Adesso, Marcelline D'Argento, AJ Reineking

**Visitors Present:** Kristen Sernett

**1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was convened by Chair. Grathoff at 7:01 p.m.

**2. Introduction of Visitors, Comments and Concerns**

Kristen Sernett re-introduced herself to all present [Ms. Sernett previously attended the February 2019 Natural Resources Commission {NRC} meeting]. Ms. Sernett requested the NRC's assistance in obtaining a "geese crossing" sign to be placed on Riverside Avenue by Langum Park. Mr. Adesso explained the State of Illinois Department of Transportation [IDOT] is responsible for the right-of-way at the above location, and the City of St. Charles is not authorized to install signage there. Mr. Adesso stated IDOT had informed him that signs such as "geese crossing" generally do not work to prevent accidents. IDOT declined the request to install a sign.

**3. Minutes Review and Approval**

Motion to approve and place into the public record the minutes of the May 9, 2019 NRC meeting. Motion by Comm. Otto, second by Comm. Goudreau to approve the minutes. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 7:12 p.m.

**4. Old Business**

**A. Arbor Day**

Chair. Grathoff briefly restated the NRC's prior discussion regarding the change in venue for the City's Arbor Day celebration [due to noise, limited parking, etc.]. Mount Saint Mary Park was previously suggested as a possible location. Motion to change the location of the annual St. Charles Arbor Day celebration from Lincoln Park to Mount Saint Mary Park as of April 2020. Motion by Comm. Brens to change the location of the Arbor Day event, second by Comm. Nagy. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 7:17 p.m.

**B. Storm Drain Markers**

Comm. Goudreau reported she and several Commissioners completed installation of the first group of storm drain medallions on June 6, 2019; the installations went well. Comm. Goudreau also reported a resident in the Grandview Court area of the city contacted the NRC via Facebook regarding installing storm drain markers in their neighborhood. Comm. Goudreau will contact the resident and explain the process.

The Commissioners agreed to meet again to install additional storm drain markers in target areas. The next group of markers will be installed on Thursday, July 18, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

The Commissioners will meet at the parking lot near the Chamber of Commerce at 216 Riverside Avenue.

Comm. Otto suggested painting the embossed lettering on cast storm drains to highlight the “no dumping” wording.

**C. Greenest Region Compact Tool**

Mr. Adesso stated if the NRC is interested in supporting the mission and goals of the Greenest Region Compact, a resolution in support of the Compact should be submitted to the City Council.

**5. New Business**

Comm. Otto provided copies of a new edition of *Under the Canopy, A Guide Selecting, Planting and Caring for Trees in Illinois*. This publication was also offered to attendees at the 2019 Arbor Day event.

**6. Committee Reports**

**A. Education Committee**

Comm. Myers reviewed the next NRC article submissions for *The Den* newsletter: August, Comm. Johnson, Natives for Landscape; September, Comm. Nagy, Evergreens; and October, Comm. Haggas, Fall Clean-Up. Ms. D’Argento confirmed the July article regarding Pollinators was received from Student Comm. Bernat.

**B. Langum Woods Clean-Up Committee**

None.

**C. New Committee**

None.

**7. Public Services Division Tree Activity Reports April 2019**

Motion to approve and place into the public record the Public Services Division Tree Activity Reports for the month of May 2019. Motion by Comm. Myers, second by Comm. Brens. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 7:45 p.m.

**8. Additional Items**

**A. Commissioners**

Comm. Haggas informed the NRC he recently volunteered and planted native plantings in Delnor Woods.

Comm. Myers described an agriculture tour she recently attended.

**B. City Staff**

Mr. Adesso informed the Commission the area at the base of the water tower at Red Gate Road was recently stabilized with native plantings to correct erosion.

**C. Visitors**

None.

**D. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Comm. Brens, second by Comm. Myers. Voice vote: unanimous; nays – none. Motion carried at 8:00 p.m.