

CITY OF PROSPECT HEIGHTS
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

Present:	Agnes Wojnarski, Chairperson	Seth Marcus
	Peter Hahn	Jill E. Moskal, Recording Secretary
	John Kamysz	Dana Sievertson
	Ed Madden	

Attendees: None

OPENING ITEMS

Call to Order

Agnes Wojnarski, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. CDT.

Roll Call

Roll Call proceeded. All Commissioners were present. A quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 9, 2018

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission of August 9, 2018 were approved. No corrections or additions were noted.

OLD BUSINESS

Update: Workday Schedules

Agnes said that fall is approaching, and we have a lot to accomplish.

We have started Seed Collection Wednesdays again, which are held in the evening from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. or dark. We are experiencing good volunteer attendance at both the Seed Collection Wednesdays and volunteer workdays of 10 to 12 people.

Our volunteer workday of September 9, 2018 was held at the Slough where we collected seed and removed buckthorn. We accomplished a lot.

Next week or the week of September 17, 2018 is Illinois Prairie Week. Therefore, we will add Tuesday and Thursday evening as Seed Collection Workdays and will cover the Slough, Seeded Prairie (ComEd) and Remnant Prairie.

John inquired if we could alter the seed collection days. Agnes prefers keeping Seed Collection Wednesday evenings to have regularity and continuity. However, adding a day is possible because there is certainly a lot of seed to collect. The question is who will manage the extra day.

Status: Continuation of Intern Assistance – Jeremy Schultz

Dana reported that Jeremy's initial internship period had concluded; however, by rolling-over the balance of our Operations Budget, utilizing the unused hours remaining from Gabi's internship, and generous contributions by Jill and Agnes, we can confidently continue Jeremy's internship until end of October and maybe into November. There is plenty of work for Jeremy to accomplish, and he is truly an asset for our Commission.

Jeremy is completing his application for the Hubbard Fellowship in Nebraska, which begins January 1, 2019. It is a tremendous opportunity and a nice transition for Jeremy. However, Jeremy is keeping all options open and is also exploring other employment opportunities.

Dana will forward the Hubbard Fellowship link to Commissioners after Jeremy has completed his application so that we may send a Letter of Recommendation on Jeremy's behalf, if we wish.

Status: Seed/Greenhouse Program

Agnes stated that we have a lot of seed to collect. The Greenhouse Program is winding down for the season.

The seeds collected earlier in the year are in germination pots. We have a few hundred plants to be planted in the ground. Everything else is stored.

Agnes will create a list of the times when plant seeds are ready to be picked after accessing other resources available.

Agnes is scaling back for next year (99% at the end of the project) and will only grow species that we need, such as shoreline plants or plants to stabilize slope banks. Jeremy had an idea to Rototill the slopes to create rows to plant the seeds.

The Greenhouse capacity has been diminished. We have reached a quasi-agreement with the City's Zoning Board to add another quality Greenhouse, if we need to. We have 80 square feet to utilize. A Greenhouse of 96 square feet is available, and if we choose that route, we would apply for a variance. In the meantime, Agnes is thinking of alternatives, such as plants that grow on a two-year cycle, so we vary the types of seeds planted and plant them outdoors plus there exists plenty of storage around the property to utilize.

If we want to keep the 200-foot Greenhouse, we would have to go through the process, which is extensive.

Status: MWRD Plan – City Council Meeting of August 27, 2018

Dana reported that many of our Commissioners attended the MWRD Plan presentation at the City Council Meeting of August 27, 2018. Many Hillcrest Lake residents were also in attendance because they realized what the project plan entails.

The presentation was thirty percent (30%) of a developed Plan, so there was only so much room for discussion. The meeting was essentially for fact-finding, questions and answers, and feedback for the City.

Dana felt the MWRD Plan presentation was very technical and difficult to understand for the laymen. Representations were made that attendees could ask questions in session; however, attendees were not afforded the opportunity and instead directed to a nearby conference room to meet with the MWRD representative separately and ask questions.

John said the conference room or side-session meeting was extremely unorganized. Groups of people were talking at the same time; there was too much commotion. Residents were asking questions, such as will there be weed control in the Lake, which had nothing to do with the MWRD Plan or raising the road. Answers were not clearly provided otherwise.

Willow Road will be raised, and the water level will stay the same. However, a lot of people did not trust this information.

After the side-room session, residents returned to City Hall Chambers and spoke. In general, people do not favor raising Willow Road. Residents are frustrated and felt they are uninformed with their concerns going unheard. Further, they feel the decision is being made without their consideration. The residents living on Owen Court are the most upset by the Plan. Willow Road would be shut down from nine months to 1.5 years. How and where will the temporary routes be around Hillcrest Lake remains unknown. This was not addressed.

Agnes reiterated that what MWRD presented was a 30% plan so there was only so much room for discussion. The plan for the project is just starting.

Dana contacted Joe Wade, City Administrator, and asked if there was anything to report about the status and aftermath of meeting. Did the Council approve and move it forward because there appeared to be a fall-out with Hillcrest Lake residents? Joe said the Council approved the resolution for support of the project. This will continue the engineering work. MWRD will provide an intergovernmental agreement designating costs and responsibilities, which will come before the Council later. There are steps for public review and comment.

John said that his impression were residents were concerned on the results of the project and how it will look. Many homes on flat ground are close to the water level. How high will be road in front of their home be raised – one foot, two feet, two and a half feet? Will they be living behind a levy? These questions were not answered and should be addressed.

The MWRD Plan will affect the public access plan. There is not room for a car to pull off to the side of Willow Road. This then moves parking to the road around the Lake. That road will be higher now, and one cannot fish off a graded slope. A lot of factors are involved, and public access will be reduced. This needs to be readdressed.

Seth had wanted to attend the MWRD presentation but was out of town. Seth inquired if our concerns were addressed by the MWRD. Seth recognizes that there are considerable differences and overlap between citizens (residents) concerns and the mission of our group. For example, preserving the finger of land where the frogs are, grading, plants planted along the grading, etc.

John said one of the parts of the plan was to naturalize the shoreline from a 15-foot buffer. They agreed to this, which is a big plus for us. Agnes said the current Plan did not show that the whole area would be planted with natural vegetation, but perhaps it will come up in the future.

Dana said the plan called for the entire stretch of Willow Road is a County Road and will be raised 6 feet and leveled out plus a 900-foot guardrail with a six-foot shoulder will be placed on the north side of the road. Therefore, parking is eliminated.

A guardrail will also be placed on the other side from of the road at the same starting point (Maple Street) and go around a new reconfigured finger. The finger is still in the plan, just moved over a bit and regarded. Naturalized planting can be accomplished, but there will be gravel issues, which Dana is confident we can talk through and work through with MWRD.

Seth said our plan was to have the path go around the entire Slough. Can that be accomplished safely? Dana said it is too early to tell because the plans are inconclusive. However, the MWRD has and is considering our concerns.

Alderman Larry Rosenthal chose to ask questions to the PHNRC instead of MWRD during the meeting. How does this affect what we are doing? Given everything we have seen, it should be fine, and we can work with it. However, a concern of the Mayor and Alderman Rosenthal's proposal was to have ample parking to get people off Willow Road. Therefore, there is a conflict of interest with the barrier. Also, perhaps a sidewalk or foot path could be factored for pedestrian safety.

Ed said there is an emphasis on the walkability of communities and a focus on sidewalk programs throughout Prospect Heights. One of the big emphasis is students being able to get to school. The proposal for Willow Road would cut-off a lot of students walking from the Lake Claire Subdivision to Hersey. How the plan is described now is there will not be pedestrian traffic, except on the shoulder of the road.

Agnes is aware that so much contribution must be made by the City regarding financial contribution. Thinking of the route, about access, pathways and school programs, maybe there is funding the City could investigate for safe passage to school.

Seth envisions placing a wooden, plastic or faux wood walkway with a railing on the Lake and Slough sides of Willow Road. Dana said it is a good solution and one we have already suggested.

Status: Commissioners' Monitoring Project Site Results

Nature Preserve (Gary Morava) (Peter Hahn)

Peter stated he has visited the Nature Preserve throughout the summer season, especially to check on the oak tree plantings from last fall. The oak trees are doing well showing three to six inches of new growth. Peter has mulched them two times and watered them three times during the season because they need attention. They must be mulched to provide protection or a buffer from mechanical machinery damage and to preserve moisture.

The bush plantings (five or six) by the tennis court are growing well, but one has been severely damaged by a mechanical apparatus or human error. The bush currently has one remaining stem.

The plantings north of the tennis courts by a school group need attention through herbiciding or line trimming because they are mostly overgrown.

The trail looks good and is not overgrown. The steps going down to the Creek are in great shape and held their own through rain and flood issues this past season.

The stone boulders in the Creek are stationary, but there is a damming problem and debris needs to be cleaned between the stones.

The grass plantings by the brick pavers are done. Peter observed grasses, a petunia and Purple Coneflower placed in between the fence and brick pavers. The brick paving is not finished, so do not know how that will affect the other plants to be planted. Do not want a lot of plants to attract bees because it is near the Concession Stand and foot traffic.

The Butterfly Weed looks good and is coming to seed.

The Creek bank is severely eroding in a few places. It might eventually work its way into the parking lot and will affect our plantings and might wash away.

Peter did not observe any new dumping but more branches. The branches have been moved further toward the Creek. Peter is hopeful the dumping site will not get closer to the Creek, especially since we have a White Pine Tree planted there.

Agnes will address the mowed down shrub with Dino.

Agnes said we were informed the brick work is completed, but Peter said it appeared only a few pieces were in place, and it needs an edge or border. Otherwise, the brick work will fall away. Agnes will speak with Dino.

Peter asked if there would be more plantings. Agnes said it was 80% completed, and Jeremy and her will be there on Friday morning to plant Prairie Drop seed (a grass) where people stand to look at the baseball field. Indian Grass and Cord Grass are planted by the stairs. In front of the stairs, Switch Grass, Liatris, Spiderwort, Echinacea (Purple Coneflower), etc., will be planted to showcase natural plants.

Peter stated there is a serious erosion problem by the tent and Lions Field caused by tremendous amount of water run-off from the parking lot. Agnes said the library parking lot also contributes rain water run-off.

Dana said there is a proposal to construct a concrete bunker to protect the baseball diamond. Great solution would be a pervious parking lot to allow the water soak into the ground instead of washing over the road and deep-rooted plants to absorb water and prevent damage.

Ed inquired about the compensatory storage area identified for the Willow Road Project. Will that impact any of our project sites, like the Slough? Agnes said the compensatory storage is 1.5 the amount that they are displacing so it will hold a great deal of water and may prevent the baseball diamond from flooding. It would hold a lot more water from coming into the Slough. Dana also felt it would hold a lot more water if we can naturalize the area.

Seth voiced his concerns, again, about the yard waste dumping site in the Nature Preserve. However, there is a limit on where the Park District can dump debris. We have defined an area with hazelnuts that are progressing, and once tall enough, will clearly define the area where the Park District could dump landscape waste. They are moving the site west toward the Creek. The Park District either chips or burns the pile. We have burned it during work days during the winter.

Seth asked if the Park District has a contract with Republic Services to pick up debris like the residents do? No.

Peter said a dumping site is unfavorable in the center of the Nature Preserve. At one point, asphalt, concrete, garbage, etc., was part of the dumping site and should not be tolerated. However, it was going on and done by outside people coming in. The Park District did a good job of removing it.

Peter stated that, in general, the Nature Preserve looks nice.

Remnant Prairie (Seth Marcus)

Seth stated first that he desires to become more educated about the site and learning about certain precious species.

Seth feels the Remnant Prairie is looking good and is in full flower with an overwhelming dominance of Golden Rod and Bone Set. Seth cannot tell the difference between Compass Plant and Prairie Dock, but this is also blooming.

Seth noted a little bit of Teasel is also present on the west side of the little strip (quick path) but looks conquerable. The Remnant Prairie also has Purple Loosestrife, some still flowering, some past flowering time, so there might be more Teasel present than realized because it was past flowering time.

Seth was unable to comment on the most precious native plants because he does not know where they are located at the Remnant Prairie.

Regarding parking, Dana said we have an agreement with the Wheeling Police Department that as long as they see our PHNRC bumper sticker on our cars (back left rear), we can park on the west end of the Diamond parking lot on the left side of the building after business hours. During business hours, park on the street facing west as close to the curb as possible.

Agnes said the Remnant Prairie has specific spots where the most precious native plants are located. Also, Jeremy continues to work on eradicating the Teasel.

Agnes also noticed a Loosestrife beetle at the beginning of the year and an explosion of dead Loosestrife. However, Agnes is no longer seeing the beetle and now there is an explosion of Purple Loosestrife. Agnes does not know how the beetle became present but does know it was introduced in Lake County, and it must have worked its way down to the Remnant Prairie. The beetle is not native. However, it is better to have the beetle than too much Loosestrife.

Tully Park (Jill Moskal)

Mrs. June Wolf donated a tree for Tully Park. Peggy Lee donated an iron table and chair set that is placed near the tree. It is a peaceful setting.

The native plants currently flowering at Tully Park are:

Asters (just starting to bloom) Boneset Brown-eyed Susan Cardinal Flower (almost finished blooming) Compass Plant	Coreopsis Goldenrod Heliopsis Rosin Weed White Snake Root
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Tully Park volunteers have collected seeds from the following plants:

Black-eyed Susan Bottle Brush Grass Canadian Rye Evening Primrose Ironweed	Monarda Silky Rye Swamp Milkweed White Snake Root
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Future plants for seed collection are: Blue Lobelia, Boneset, Cardinal Flower, Inland Oats, Liatris and the Mint flowers.

A prescribed burn is scheduled by the PHNRC for the end of October 2018. This will be the first prescribed burn for Tully Park.

Peter asked if there was still a place for people to play. Yes.

Seeded Prairie (Dana Sievertson)

Dana summarized the seeded prairie as a “Tale of Two Cities.” The east and west sides of the Seeded Prairie are different in terms of their evolution.

West Side: Dana has never seen a prairie composed completely of Forbes, and it is so dense, there is no room for weeds. The pollinators are in the thousands. Along the walking path are Asters, and they continue to grow if they are not cut. Everything is 6 to 7 feet tall. The area to the left of the walking path as you are walking west is devoid of anything and instead mostly high Eurasian grasses, two feet in height. The areas that were mowed last year are recovering, but not much progress.

Seed collection will be Cup Plants, Coneflower, Rattlesnake Master, Monarda, Canada Wild Rye, some of the other tall grasses, tall Coreopsis is almost ready, and the asters are coming into bloom.

East Side: There are patches that are mimicking the west side. But before you come to the Tower as you are walking toward Elmhurst Road, there are flowers that have expired blooming and released their seed. Then a dense corps of annual weeds, which are alarming. Go a bit further and you see more Forbes, Cup Plant and tall Eurasian grasses. It then dwindles down to patches of nothing on the left side of the walking path. Right hand side is a bit better. As you progress, again, to Elmhurst Road, you see all Forbes. There is an overabundance on both sides of Golden Rod. We must look at and intervene and reduce.

Dana said it would be outstanding if ComEd could burn the Seeded Prairie next year.

Dana stated that Public Works did a good job of keeping the path open and cleared. The Park District mowed alongside the path.

There is no evidence anywhere of anyone doing anything to molest the Seeded Prairie. Dana feels we have turned the corner of experiencing residents’ interference.

Dana did not see any invasives on the West side. The East Side had little amounts of clover and Canada Thistle. The work that our interns, Jeremy and Gabi, did this summer was outstanding. The whole project is doing well.

Ed inquired if we do any more reporting to ComEd. We stay in contact with Sarah Race, but do not do any official reporting. Ed said it would be nice to inform them of the success on the project. Dana will send photos and information to Sarah.

Heron Pond (John Kamysz)

Access to Heron Pond has been impassable these last few weeks because of water. The main entrance to Heron Pond is blocked by deep water. You must go through private property to get to Heron Pond and then slug through a large mud patch.

All the plantings (Cardinal Flower and grasses) from last year are thriving. However, it was very thick and difficult for John to walk through and get an accurate assessment, especially because of the mosquitos.

The path is reversed mowed. The two signs up on the parts we do not want mowed. It is growing grass with the logs we put down not define the path.

John is not convinced the log lining the path is not good. It is difficult to get a mower where we want the path mowed. The logs are disheveled or moved around in the next storm. John suggests having a mowed line down the middle of the path and remove the log lining.

St. Alphonsus (Ed Madden)

Ed regrets that he could not provide an accurate report of the St. Alphonsus wetland area in front of the church property because he is unfamiliar with what is growing. Ed would appreciate coaching, which Agnes will gladly supply. Did you aesthetically like the site? Ed does not know what to look for, but from a distance, it looks great.

Agnes said it is a very nice area to showcase and illustrate restoration for other areas that have detention, swales or standing water. St. Alphonsus wetland is coming along nicely. Everything is blooming and growing from seeding installation. It is a great success.

Agnes has periodically evaluates the site and sends e:mail messages to the St. Alphonsus Garden & Landscape Ministry volunteers. There are a few plants remaining that are aggressive and weedy, but the Ministry removed them. Canada Thistle is still growing, and Agnes is watching it.

Overall, St. Alphonsus is pleased and impressed with the results.

Sedge Meadow (Agnes Wojnarski)

The Sedge Meadow has a lot of teasel, which Jeremy will finish eradicating soon. We will conduct a seed collection (Swamp Milkweed) at the Sedge Meadow soon. Overall, the Sedge Meadow has so many great things, like sedges and rushes, other populations and rare plants, such as Yellow Loosestrife. Agnes currently counted 15 Yellow Loosestrife plants. It is a lot of work but is important and worth our while. Frogs are present in the Spring. The Wild Plums are ready to pick.

Status: Public Outreach – Cook County Master Gardeners Slough Walk and High School Status

Garden Club of Mount Prospect: Jill reported that we received a contract for November 14, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. for 1.5 hours for PHNRC to present our Slough 101 presentation. The meeting will be held at the Friendship Park Conservatory, 395 Algonquin Road, Des Plaines, Illinois.

Cook County Master Gardeners: Seth reported on the Cook County Master Gardeners Slough Walk conducted on Wednesday morning, September 12, 2018 from 10:30 am to 12 Noon. About 10 people attended with Dana, Agnes, Seth and Jill.

Seth felt we imparted knowledge on them, and they on us! The walk began with a History of the Slough (Jill). On the complete walk around the Slough, Agnes covered wildlife inhabiting the area, native plants found in the Slough, management of invasives, our process for seed collection, and the effect of herbicides on insects. We served refreshments and beverages at the conclusion of the field trip.

We were informed that the length of the walk was a bit intimidating for older volunteers. PHNRC participants later discussed having a vehicle available on the road for future field trips or walks.

Upon departing, the Master Gardeners inquired if they could attend our volunteer workdays.

We found the entire experience educational, and we feel we have established a new relationship and network with the University of Illinois Extension – Cook County Master Gardeners.

High School Program: Dana said that volunteer, Linda Waycie, is going back to the high school about possible participation in Seed Collection Wednesdays as a first step in getting students to volunteer with us. Linda will advise further of her progress.

Library/Park District Program: Nature Speaks Program

The Nature Speaks Program speaker for November 29, 2018 is Joel Greenberg, Author and Naturalist, and the title of his presentation is “Hope is the Thing with Feathers: American and Three Birds.” For future Nature Speaks Programs, we will issue a special invitation to our City and Park District officials encouraging their attendance.

Dana also reported that we have secured Bill Kleinman of the Nachusa Grasslands as our speaker for June 26, 2019. Bill will provide a 30-year history of tall grass prairies and bison.

Nature Preserve – Interpretative Signage

Dana is completing placing the secondary files into the large file and is almost finish with the Interpretative Signage production.

NEW BUSINESS

Illinois Prairie Week (September 17 – 21, 2018)

The third week of September is designated by the Illinois Compiled Statutes as Illinois Prairie Week. We are planning the following events:

Special Seed Collection Workdays – Tuesday, September 18 (Slough) and Thursday,
September 20 (Remnant Prairie); 5:00 to 7:00 pm
Standard Seed Collection Workday – Wednesday, September 19, 5:00 to 7:00 pm
Fall Bird Walk – Saturday, September 22, 2018, 7:30 – 9:30 am

Dana will send an announcement.

Dana also mentioned that Nancy sent him a video sound recording of a barred owl that she heard around 10:00 pm the other night. It is rare to hear/see a barred owl.

Dana sent the video sound recording to Mary Lou who was able to verify that it was a barred owl. The intonations sound like the phrases, “Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you all?”

PHNRC Strategic Planning

Dana provided every Commissioner with a copy of a rough outline for a PHNRC Strategic Plan. The outline includes an Introductory Statement, Background Statement, Management Structure, Organizational Principles, PHNRC Analysis, Major Goals and Evaluations. Updates are noted in red font.

Seth will work with Dana on expanding the PHNRC Strategic Plan and placing it in a meaningful state but input from Commissioners is also expected.

The PHNRC Strategic Plan will cover 3, 5 and 10 years on how our organization can be sustainable and with succession planning. Weaknesses and strengths of the organization should also be examined.

Dana provided a matrix outlining goals, action steps, and a person seeing it to completion and area for evaluation.

Calendar of Meeting Dates and PHNRC Representation

Jill produced a calendar of meeting dates for the City Council, McDonald Creek Commission, Prospect Heights Park District Board and the PHNRC as a guideline of meetings for PHNRC Representation.

Dana attended the PHPD Board Meeting on August 21, 2018 where legal issues, new hires, baseball field and park tours were subjects covered. Much of the agenda topics were benched. Dana expressed appreciation for their assistance to PHNRC, and they returned the appreciation.

The Food and Beverage Banquet at the Golf Course will be determined. They may utilize a new purveyor. Completing by November 18.

Poplar Creek Prairie Stewards – Seed Collecting Day(s)

PCPS Seed Collecting Day will be determined soon when seed is ready to be picked. Agnes will contact PCPS.

Fall Prescribed Burns

Agnes will develop of list of project sites in need of a prescribed burn this fall but is thinking of portions of the Slough and Tully Park.

Agnes said we will require an EPA permit. The existing permit is valid through next spring for the Slough and its proximity. It does not include the Nature Preserve, St. Alphonsus, the Nature Preserve and Tully Park. Therefore, when we re-apply, we will not specify a specific area but all our project sites. The new EPA permit will be effective from Fall 2018 to Spring 2019.

John Kamysz will participate in burn training. Jeremy is also taking the class.

McDonald Creek Commission Meeting – July 24, 2018

Jill Moskal stated the McDonald Creek Commission (MCC) held a meeting on August 28, 2018. Jill was unable to attend the meeting in person and instead listened to the recording posted on the City's website.

The MCC did not have any comments on the MWRD Plans for Willow Road because Cathy O'Brady, Chairperson, did not attend the meeting.

Cathy learned too late about the Illinois Waterway Clean-Up Week, which was held from September 10 – 16, 2018. Cathy will not follow-up on this State activity for 2019.

The MCC's presentation to the City Council on the McDonald Creek Commission is now scheduled for September.

The McDonald Creek brochure was mailed to residents. The MCC reiterated that although they are a relatively new commission, they would like to hear from residents and assist them with any and all concerns and encourage them to send photos of creek issues.

MCC discussed contacting residents along the creek for their concerns and upon presenting to Joe Wade and Mark Roscoe, could have a combined project between Prospect Heights and Mount Prospect. This could also result in a workday to clean-up areas in September and to build relationships to resolve problems.

A resident at 1001 Edward road, Prospect Heights attended the August 28, 2018 MCC Meeting. The resident needs help in cleaning up a large tree and two large branches that fell into the creek. After discussions, the MCC suggested the resident contact Joe Wade and request he visit his property and look at his concerns. The MCC said Joe would then contact Mark Roscoe of Public Works.

The resident is also concerned about erosion. The MCC mentioned the PHNRC as a good resource for the correct vegetation to plant.

The next McDonald Creek Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday evening, September 25, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Wild Things Talk

The PHNRC has been contacted and requested to present at the Wild Things Talk scheduled for Saturday, February 23, 2019 at the Douglas Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois.

Agnes was also asked to specifically participate in a panel discussion on seed propagation.

Prospect Heights Public Library Display Cases for November 2018

The PHPL asked if PHNRC would be interested in having a display in the Library's two display cases for the month of November.

Commissioners discussed how to outfit the display cases. Jill felt our brochure adequately summarizes our Commission, mission, Nature Speaks Program, etc., and should be enlarged and grouped with plenty of photos, particularly of volunteers.

Seth offered that natural items, such as a turtle shell and seeds, should be displayed.

Dana was keen on featuring prescribed burns with photos and equipment, but both John and Jill felt it would not be that interesting to the public.

Dana will advise Terri that we will participate.

David Ludwin – Prospect Heights Slough Birds

David Ludwin, a local resident and PHNRC volunteer, has been taking photographs for 50 years. A few years' ago, Mr. Ludwin became involved with the restoration efforts at the Prospect Heights Slough through PHNRC. Working with the Commission, David noticed that as the habitat changed, so did the birds, insects and wildlife that use it. As a result, David became fascinated with the changing bird populations and turned his lens towards documenting the new residents, nesting species and migrations. The results showed great artistic insights into Audubon life at the Slough.

David will show these incredible photographs at our second PHNRC exhibition at the Prospect Heights Public Library. The show is entitled "Prospect Heights Slough Birds," and will open on October 1 and run through October 31, 2018. A reception to meet the artist will be held on October 3 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Ludwin's images will be for sale, framed or unframed with a portion of every sale donated to the PHNRC intern program.

Dana is planning ahead and stated that September 2019 will be a PHNRC Art Show.

Other

Jill proposed Commissioners compile their Monitoring Project Site Reports in written form and e:mail to Commissioners before each PHNRC Meeting. Then at the actual meeting, anything to note would be addressed.

The Monitoring Project Site Reports will be included with the record of each PHNRC Meeting.

Jill's proposal is to ensure our meeting time is keep to a reasonable timeframe and the meeting minutes to a reasonable length.

Visitor's Comments

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Prospect Heights Natural Resources Commission is scheduled for Thursday, October 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the meeting. Therefore, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Jill E. Moskal, CPS
PHNRC Commissioner and Recording Secretary