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VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON
ENVIRONMENTAL & HEALTH COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m.

Roll Call

Roll call was answered by Chairperson Steve Kahn and Lauren Preisen. Vance Antoniou was absent.

Also present was Village Forester Susan Allman, Village Administrator John Lobaito and Administrative Assistant Sue Murdy.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes from April 9, 2026 Environmental & Health Commission Meeting

Motion by Lauren Preisen and seconded by Steve Kahn to approve April 9, 2026, Environmental & Health Commission Meeting Minutes. On roll call, Chairperson Steve Kahn and Lauren Preisen voted AYE. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

FYE 2027 Budget Discussion

Chairperson Steve Kahn stated the Environmental and Health Commission will have funds in the FYE 2027 Budget. The new fiscal year began April 30, 2026. The Commission would like a Village sponsored monetary incentive program to be offered to the Village residents to remove buckthorn from their property.

Ancient Oaks-Buckthorn County-Cash for Conservation Discussion

The Commission discussed details and will follow the format of the Ancient Oaks Foundation Buckthorn Bounty Program. Village Administrator Lobaito stated such a program would require approval by the Board of Trustees. Chairperson Kahn will submit a proposed program description to Village staff. The Commission will continue to promote the Tree Planting Cost Share program through the Village Website, E-blasts and Village Facebook page.

Arbor Day/Earth Day Recap

The Commission discussed the Sunday, May 3, 2026, Arbor Day Event. There was a good turnout. Biltmore Country Club donated a Tulip Tree.

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50/50 Village Tree Removal Program Discussion

There was extensive discussion about a Village program incentivizing residents to remove dead trees and replace with new trees. The Village Forester stated the advantages of dead trees as they serve as nests for wildlife. There was also discussion about tagging the dedicated trees in Eton Park that have been planted.

Brainstorming/Strategic Planning/Resident Survey

- **Buckthorn Removal Raffle**

The Commission discussed ways to engage the community as well as encourage participation in gardening, conservation and cleanup of natural areas. The possibility of a program highlighting Village resident's environmentally friendly gardens will be discussed at the next meeting.

The Commission discussed the possibility of a Village wide cleanup.

Old/New Business

Chairperson Kahn is working with President Sweet McDonnell to recruit new Commission members.

Chairperson Steve Kahn attended April 22, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting to present the 2025 Tree of the Year winners with their plaque and yard sign.

Adjournment

Motion by Lauren Preisen and seconded by Chairperson Kahn to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote Chairperson Steve Kahn and Lauren Preisen voted AYE. No NAYS. Motion Carried.

The meeting of the Environmental and Health Commission was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

John Lobaito
Village Clerk

