

**VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL & HEALTH COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, March 3, 2026**

**Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order at 11:22 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 February 3, 2026 Environmental & Health Commission Meeting**

Motion by Steve Kahn and seconded by Lauren Preisen to approve February 3, 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 had funds in their tree budget and suggested a Village sponsored monetary incentive program be offered to the Village residents to remove buckthorn from their property.

The Commission discussed details and will follow the format of the Ancient Oaks Foundation Buckthorn Bounty Program. Chairperson Kahn will submit a proposed program description.

**2025 Tree of the Year Discussion**

Administrative Assistant Sue Murdy reported that the 2025 Tree of the Year winner yard sign and plaques are completed. Thank you, letters will also be sent to the nominees, also asking for their permission to use their tree nominations next year.

**Arbor Day/Earth Day Planning**

The Commission decided on Sunday, May 3, 2026, to be the Arbor Day Event. Village Forester Susan Allman reported she will contact Biltmore Country Club about donating a tree again. Parks and Recreation Commission Chairperson David Lauffer has approved the tree planting at Eton Park. Village Administrator Lobaito will order saplings to be distributed. The Commission agreed a total of 50 saplings would be sufficient. An Arbor Day Proclamation will be made at the April 15, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting. Administrative Assistant Sue Murdy will order ten new Arbor Day/Earth Day

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signs. State Graphics will design the signs for the Commission's approval. Lauren Preisen will bring some cookies. Volunteers at the event will earn Community hours.

**Brainstorming/Strategic Planning/Resident Survey**

- Native Plant Garden Container Challenge
- Buckthorn Removal Raffle

The Commission discussed ways to engage the community as well as encourage participation in gardening, conservation and cleanup of natural areas. Utilization of the Village Website and e-blast communications are preferred. Administrator Lobaito will give the Commission administrative rights to the Village Website so they may post updates to the community.

**Old/New Business**

The Commission is continuing to recruit new Commission members.

**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 12:05 p.m.

Submitted by,

John Lobaito  
Village Clerk

