1) Call to Order

Commission Chair Gelfund called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2) Pledge to the Flag

Chair Gelfund led the Commission in the Pledge to the Flag.

3) Roll-call

Commissioners Antonio Costantino, Donald Gelfund, James Lee, Georjean Nickell, Claude Petit, Scott Troiani, Trustee Ronald Cope, Assistant to the Public Works Director Ashley Engelmann, Village Engineer Jim Johnson, Officer Timothy Schaefer and Chief of Police Robert LaMantia were present.

Commissioner Mark Bonner was absent.

4) Report by Chair

No Report

5) Approval of Traffic Commission Minutes

Commissioner Nickell made a motion to approve the minutes from August 5, 2013. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6) Unfinished Business

7) New Business

(1) Ms. Kathy O’Brien presented a Request by Airoom, 6825 Lincoln for Designated Parkway Parking at on Keystone east of Lincoln, and on Karlov east of Lincoln.

Ms. O’Brien presented a PowerPoint depicting Airoom’s Request. The PowerPoint began by stating the plan’s goals. Part of plan’s objective is to address the vision of the Lincoln Avenue Task Force by eliminating motorists backing on to Lincoln. The plan also addresses green space, trees and pedestrian safety. The plan includes bump outs on Lincoln at Keystone as traffic calming measure. She stated that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) tentatively approved a plan to improve traffic safety on
Ms. O'Brien showed a slide depicting existing parking on Lincoln and explained that currently, vehicles parked in front of the Airoom property have to back out onto Lincoln.

Ms. O'Brien’s PowerPoint included the following slides:

- overall photographs of the existing area
- parking conditions along Keystone
- parking conditions along Karlov
- proposed comprehensive layout surrounded by Keystone, Karlov, and Lincoln
- layout of the south area centered around Lincoln and Keystone
- layout of the north area centered around Lincoln and Karlov
- potential travel routes for the motoring public
- current parking count which shows an increase in nine additional parking spaces
- precedents (areas of Lincolnwood) with Designated Parkway Parking, and a summary of the request to include:
  - twenty-four additional parallel parking spaces on Keystone
  - eight additional parallel parking spaces on Karlov
  - eliminating motorists backing on to Lincoln
  - the addition of bump outs on Lincoln
  - the addition of a new driveway along Lincoln
  - additional trees and landscaping
  - no street closures on Keystone and/or Karlov

Upon conclusion of Ms. O'Brien’s presentation, the Commission made the following comments or asked the following questions:

Commissioner Nickell reminded the petitioner that Northshore at Crawford was closed due to cut through traffic, not to create parking for the strip mall on
Ms. O'Brien acknowledged Ms. Nickell’s comment.

Commissioner Petit inquired about the ownership of Designated Parkway Parking. Ms. O’Brien stated that under the Village Code, the Village retains ownership of the property, it remains the public right-of-way.

Commissioner Nickell asked to view the tentative 2012 approval letter from IDOT. Ms. Engelmann provided the letter to Commissioner Nickell.

Commissioner Nickell asked who would maintain the streets. Ms. Engelmann stated that the Public Works Department does not maintain any of the Designated Parkway Parking areas. Ms. O’Brien stated that the trees and shrubs will be finalized and approved by staff, if the project moves forward. Ms. Engelmann followed-up by saying all of the trees, shrubs and green space would be complaint with the Code.

Commissioner Petit asked if Keystone and Karlov would still be two-way traffic, and asked about the width of the streets. Chief LaMantia confirmed both Keystone and Karlov would remain two-way. Ms. O’Brien said the width would be 26 feet and meets current standards.

Chair Gelfund asked if the Fire Department had any concerns. Duty Chief Ray White said even if the width was reduced by 10 feet, it was better than a cul-de-sac, and said even their largest truck would have a sufficient turning radius. Officer Schaefer added that a cul-de-sac would have been an issue, but squad cars could get through.

The following people spoke regarding the request:

**Ms. Georgia Talaganis**
**3955 Estes**

Ms. Talaganis said she has lived in the Village for over 30 years, and represents the Friends of the Library. She said this is the 10th anniversary of the same question. In 2003, Airoom requested to put parking on Keystone and at that time the Streets and Alleys Committee passed the matter to the Village Board. In 2004, the Village Board said “no.” In 2009, the Lincoln Ave. Streetscape Committee voted it down, and in April 2012, Airoom asked to purchase and close Keystone, and the Traffic Commission voted a resounding “no.”

In regards to the MB Financial, the bank only purchased a few feet of the roadway. In 1981, Airoom lost two spaces when a second floor was added. In 1988, Airoom lost an additional space and one half. In 1995, the Village Board adopted Ordinance 95-2199 (section 2 b) states there shall be no parking on Keystone, and it was signed by Mr. Klein. Keystone is a narrow street, and there are probably quite a few collisions, already. Currently,
Airoom employees park right under signs say “Resident Only Parking.” Currently, Airoom parks 10 cars on Keystone, why tear it up? Sidewalks would be limited, dedicated trees would have to be removed. This marks 10 years of Airoom trying to take up the public streets. This needs to stop. Please consider this.

Ms. Bertha Gimbel  
7000 McCormick 
Ms. Gimbel chose not to speak.

Mr. Joseph Noferi  
6924 Keystone 
Mr. Noferi said he has been a resident for 60 years and his mother has lived in the Village longer. He said Airoom made a nice presentation, but he did not wish to go into it. He said it does not make sense to cut down trees. He said Airoom expanded its building without proper permits, and he has never seen the fire department go anywhere with just one vehicle. This decision will restrict the fire department. Hopefully, it will never happen, if it does, someone will get hurt. He was at the meeting with newly elected Mayor Turry said maybe it’s time Airoom look elsewhere. He can’t think of a more horrible thing than asking IDOT for an opinion. IDOT does not care about residential streets.

Ms. Kendra Beard  
4000 Pratt 
Ms. Beard is the President of the Library Board. Ms. Beard said she opposes the petitioner’s request, but it’s not about the petitioner. The request may limit what the library may wish to do in the future. In addition, at least four healthy trees would be lost, if this permit is approved. She has safety concerns. Cars parked head in toward the sidewalk is probably not a good idea. The plan nets only nine additional parking spaces, but loses trees and green space. It’s a lot of moving and shifting for very few spaces.

Mr. Buss Alpert  
7220 Keeler 
Mr. Alpert has lived in Lincolnwood since 1977. He asked, if we break the rules for one individual, how do we say no next time? We should avoid litigation.

Mr. Bud Sajic  
6925 Karlov 
Mr. Sajic said he has lived in Lincolnwood for 40 years, and does not want change. We love what we have.
Mr. Teodor Strat  
6935 Karlov  
Mr. Strat said that in order for a compromise to be reached, both parties must agree, and he does not agree. There is no benefit.

Ms. Doris Guthman  
7136 Kedvale  
Ms. Guthman said she has lived on Kedvale for 46 years, and had occasion to use the fire department’s paramedic service three times. Keeping the street open is more important than parking.

Dr. Michael Gebrehiiwet  
6826 Keystone  
Dr. Gebrehiiwet has lived behind Airoom since 1992. He went on to explain all of the nuisances, but then asked: Why do we have to come time and again? Is there a limit? If I had my way, this would be the end.

Ms. Mera Wei  
4157 Lunt  
Ms. Wei said that she agrees with her neighbors.

Ms. Su Bochenski  
Library Director  
4000 Pratt  
Ms. Bochenski said she agrees with Ms. Kendra Beard, President of the Lincolnwood Public Library.

Mr. Chris Martel  
3861 Albion  
Mr. Martel said he is a member of the Lincolnwood Public Library Board, former member of the Traffic Commission, and currently a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. The library, an adjacent property owner currently enjoys a wide sidewalk, green space, and would like a say. Twenty-four feet is more of what you do in a parking lot, not a residential street. In addition, angled parking would be better. It’s probably okay to do what they want on their side of the street. However, he does not want to limit what the library could do in the future. The library spent considerable funds to do it right. Everyone should do it the right way. The petitioner said it (Designated Parkway Parking) exists on Keating and East Prairie, but there is more pace between the back of the vehicle and the opposite curb.

Mike Lichter  
6819 Keystone  
Mr. Lichter said at the risk of being redundant, he wants to discuss safety. Airoom, with all of its pick-up trucks parked on the street, a 42 foot fire truck will not be able to make the turn. In addition, Airoom is not a good neighbor.
Airoom wants to turn the neighborhood into a parking lot.

**Angie Kotsinonos**  
**6905 Karlov**  
Ms. Kotsinonos has lived in Lincolnwood for 30 years, and strongly agrees with the residents and disagrees with Airoom. The Village would be losing a lot to give Airoom parking. The Village’s practice is to replace lost trees. Residents don’t think this is an improvement. This contradicts the Village’s practice.

**Mr. Jim Angelakos**  
**6855 Karlov**  
Mr. Angelakos has lived in Lincolnwood since 1976 and he has been here before. It was all about beautification, Airoom should be adding benches, not taking away parking. We have reached a point, this is becoming ridiculous, just say no.

**April Vanderporden**  
**6648 Kenneth**  
Ms. Vanderporden has lived in the Village for 30 years. The last time she spoke about a medical situation. This time she would like to talk about goodwill. If approved, there will be no goodwill.

**Argoeht Verseli**  
**6853 Keystone**  
Mr. Verseli indicated that he was opposed to the petitioner’s request.

Two residents sent letters opposing the petitioner’s request, Mr. Yousuf, 6930 Karlov, and Dr. Marc and Ms. Eileen Feder, 4050 Morse, (attached).

**Ordinance 95-2199**  
Ms. Engelmann located Ordinance 95-2199 in the Village’s archives, and printed and distributed it to the Commission and the petitioner (attached) during the public comment portion of the meeting. Note that Exhibit K referenced in Section 2 B was not available at the time of the meeting, nor was it discussed during the meeting (attached).

Mr. Michael Klein addressed the Commission. He said the Village originally granted a permit for parkway parking when the building was expanded in 1995, but there was a concern about the parking, so his company agreed not to expand the parking on Keystone.

Commissioner Nickell asked what changed.

Mr. Klein said he was trying to solve a parking problem. It all leads to safety.
Commissioner Nickell asked if he explored off-street parking.

Mr. Klein said he tried to purchase parking, but it was not available, it is a matter of being landlocked. He said it’s a global Lincolnwood issue. Commissioner Nickell asked Mr. Klein, if he signed the Ordinance in 1995.

Mr. Klein said “yes,” I signed the document, but I don’t see Exhibit K. He said that he did not remember everything, but at one time he had permission to park (on Keystone), but gave it back.

Commissioner Petit asked who would pay for the improvements. Chief LaMantia said in the past the petitioner has always paid for the improvements for Designated Parkway Parking.

Commissioner Troiani asked Mr. Jim Johnson if anything mentioned in the letter from IDOT was completed. Mr. Johnson, said none of it would typically be done prior to some level of approval by the Village.

Chair Gelfund asked if there was any further discussion, hearing none, he said he would entertain a motion.

Commissioner Troiani made a motion to recommend the Village Board deny the petitioner’s request for Designated Parkway Parking on Keystone and on Karlov east of Lincoln. Commissioner Costantino seconded the motion.

Commissioner Nickell said she came to the meeting with an open mind. However, unfortunately she strongly recommends the petitioner find some other option. This request is causing a lot of frustration for the community. If Exhibit K supports the Ordinance, this matter should not come before the Traffic Commission. Chair Gelfund indicated his concurrence with Commissioner Nickell, and stated this seems like a lot of work for just nine parking spaces. He also recommended Airoom purchase property for parking.

The motion was unanimously approved.

b) Review of the Commercial and Recreational Vehicle Ordinance

Commissioner Troiani made a motion to table this matter until the October meeting. Commissioner Nickell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

c) Discussion of Standardizing Crosswalk Markings.

Commissioner Troiani made a motion to table this matter until the October meeting. Commissioner Petit seconded the motion. The motion was
8) New Business

a) A Public Hearing to consider a petition by Dr. Zaki Siddiqui, owner of 3372 W. Devon Avenue, Lincolnwood, IL for Designated Parkway Parking on Kimball North of Devon

Mr. Scott Pritchett presented a seven slide PowerPoint presentation on his Dr. Siddiqui’s application for Designated Parkway Parking on Kimball north of Devon.

The presentation included the following:

an artist rendition of the renovated building

a plan depicting eight new Designated Parkway Parking spaces on the east side of Kimball north of Devon

a plan depicting one new parking space on Devon, east of Kimball

a plan depicting parking behind the building

an plan depicting the overall property

a plan showing drainage and grading

a plan depicting the property as it currently exists

Mr. Pritchett advised the Commission that the petitioner requests to increase on-street parking on the east side of Kimball from four to eight spaces. There will be no impact to the surrounding area. The existing building to the east of 3372 Devon has its own parking lot. The petitioner’s application/request will comply with all Village Codes.

Two residents (6400 block of Kimball) expressed opposition to the petitioner’s request. Both residents cited a lack of resident parking on Kimball, expressed concerns regarding the petitioner’s development of the property located at 3372 Devon and the affect it will have on the neighbors, and asked what could be done to address a lack of parking for the residents. Chief LaMantia explained that the existing building was approved decades ago, the current property owner is renovating it in compliance with the Code, and the petitioner’s request will add four new public parking spaces. Chief LaMantia also said that a member of the police department will follow-up with the residents to discuss the procedures for requesting “Resident Only Parking.”

Village Engineer Johnson reported that the petitioner's request for Designated
Parkway Parking is different from East Prairie, north of Touhy. Westbound traffic on Touhy turning right onto East Prairie has a clear and unobstructed view of the Designated Parkway Parking on the west side of East Prairie. The petitioner is requesting Designated Parkway Parking on the eastside of Kimball, north of Devon. Westbound traffic on Devon turning right onto Kimball will not have a clear and unobstructed view of the parking area. He also stated that Kimball is 32’ from curb to curb and is substandard.

Commissioner Nickell asked if the first space were eliminated, if it would help. She also asked Fire Department Duty Chief Ray White, if he had a concern.

Duty Chief White indicated that as long as the roadway was at least 22 feet wide, the fire department would not have a problem going down the street.

Village Engineer Johnson said even if the Traffic Commission does not approve the petitioner’s request, it may have to eliminate the two parallel parking spaces on the west side of Kimball, just north of Devon. He said the street is not wide enough to accommodate parking on both sides of the street and two-way traffic.

Chair Gelfund asked if the Commission had further discussion. There was none.

Commissioner Petit made a motion to recommend the Village Board deny the petitioner’s request for Designated Parkway Parking on the eastside of Kimball, north of Devon. Commissioner Troiani seconded the motion. Commissioners Costantino, Lee, Nickell, Petit and Troiani voted Aye, Chair Gelfund voted Nay. The motion was approved.

b) Consideration of a Request to Post Alternate Side Parking Ordinance on Every Street Sweeping Sign in the Village

Chair Gelfund read a letter from Ms. Lydia Cohen (attached) into the record.

Ms. Cohen snow removal impacts the residents much more than street sweeping, the snow removal Ordinance should be placed on every street sweeping pole. She said she hears from the residents.

Mr. Buzz Alpert said a lot of motorists do not see the snow removal Ordinance signs at the entrances to the Village. He said if we have street sweeping signs on every block, why don’t we have snow removal signs on every block?

Chief LaMantia explained that staff had the matter reviewed by corporation council prior to the Ordinance and the Village’s current signage meets legal requirements. He further stated that every community within 25 miles has an ordinance which restricts parking on the street immediately following an accumulation of two inches of snow. In the Chicago area, it is universally accepted that parking is restricted following a snow event, and the Village’s
restrictions are widely publicized.

Ms. Engelmann reviewed the Village’s Alternate Side Parking education campaign.

Ms. Doris Guthman said the Village should post additional signs. People don’t see the signs that are posted.

Commissioner Nickell suggested posting more signs on collector and arterial streets.

Chair Gelfund agreed.

Commissioner Troiani made a motion to request that staff propose additional signage on collector and arterial streets. Commissioner Nickell seconded the motion. Commissioners Petit, Troiani, Lee, Nickell and Gelfund voted Aye, Commissioner Costantino Abstained. The motion passed.

Ms. Engelmann said she research the matter and will follow-up with the Commission at the October meeting.

c) Review of Traffic Crashes at Devon Avenue and Ridgeway Avenue

Chief LaMantia reported that he received a request by Trustee Patel to review the intersection and examine opportunities to improve safety and reduce traffic crashes. He reported Lincolnwood is waiting for copies of traffic crash reports from Chicago. This matter will be reviewed at the November meeting.

9) Public Forum

None

10) Report by Staff

Ms. Engelmann reported on the reconstruction of Cicero and the reconstruction of Crawford beginning in the spring of 2014.

11) Good of the Order

12) Adjournment

Commissioner Troiani made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 p.m. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.