1. Call to order

Chair Gelfund called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. Pledge to the Flag

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

3. Roll Call

Commissioners Mark Bonner, Antonio Costantino, Donald Gelfund, Georjean Nickell, Claude Petit, Scott Troiani, James Lee, Officer Timothy Schaefer and Sergeant Michael Cahill were present.

Assistant to the Public Works Director Ashley Engelmann, Chief Robert LaMantia, and Village Engineer James Johnson was absent.

4. Report by Chair

Chair Gelfund reported that Airoom applied to have the 1995 Ordinance restricting Designated Parkway Parking on the 6800 block of Keystone repealed.

5. New Business

a. Chief LaMantia presented Board and Commission Meeting Protocol.

b. Commercial and Recreational Vehicle Ordinance

Chair Gelfund asked for input from the community regarding the Traffic Commission’s recommended changes to the Commercial and Recreational Vehicle Ordinance.

Ms. Debra Stang
6910 North Keating Ave.

Ms. Stang reported that she owns a 40 foot class a motorhome and it is very unnecessary under any circumstances to restrict motorhomes within the Village. She further stated that when preparing for travel, it sometimes takes over 24 hours to prepare the camper and the refrigeration system.

In 2010, she had a house fire and lived in the motorhome while the house was being repaired. During that time, she received a notice of being in violation of the recreational vehicle parking restrictions. She requested
the Ordinance not be changed, and that they be allowed to park their RV for at least 48 hours, as the Ordinance currently states.

Mr. Mike Lisle  
6639 Longmeadow Ave.  
Mr. Lisle stated he was has been a resident of Lincolnwood for 30 years and applauds the Commission on the proposed changes to the Code. He has seen changes for the worse because of commercial vehicle parking. In his neighborhood a resident parks a flatbed pickup truck almost on a nightly basis. He also stated that someone has a broken down pick-up truck, in a state of disrepair on the driveway near his house.

Mr. Lisle stated that he has called to complain about this pick-up truck, but was told that it was unclear if the Ordinance could be enforced, because the license plate could not be seen from the street. He welcomes more specific regulations or restrictions.

Mr. Daniel May  
6907 Kilpatrick Ave.  
Mr. May stated that he grew up in Lincolnwood and has lived here for 27 years. Mr. May stated that the trailer and bobcat parked on the driveway in the PowerPoint presentation belong to him. He requested a variation to expand his garage so that he could park his vehicles inside, but it was denied. In addition he wanted to know why, since he pays taxes for Village stickers and license plates, he shouldn’t be allowed to park on his private driveway.

Mr. May also stated that he uses that bobcat to plow snow for his neighbors and no one ever complains. He said changing the Code would cause him an undue hardship. He usually parks his vehicles at his grandmother's house, but sometimes he has to leave early in the morning, or is too tired to park them there, so he parks them at his house in Lincolnwood.

Georgia Talaganis  
3955 Estes Ave.  
Ms. Talaganis spoke about how she liked the proposed changes to the Code. This issue is a character of community concern. The number of panel vans parked within the Village is becoming excessive. Her concern was that there are panel trucks parked on residential driveways that are not registered to the Village. Many of the panel trucks are registered to other towns, and that because they are not allowed to park in those towns, owners bring them home to Lincolnwood. She also stated that these same vehicles come and go at all hours of the night.
Guilford Cunningham  
6910 North Keating Ave.  
Mr. Cunningham said his concern with the proposed Code is in regards to recreational vehicles and boats. He stated that he has a 1957 classic vehicle with a cover on it in his driveway and received a ticket for a disabled/abandoned vehicle. He also parks his nice-looking RV on his driveway and received a ticket. His recreational vehicle is in good condition, he is taking care of it, is not blocking any sidewalks, and he feels that with the amount of taxes that he pays to the Village, he should be able to park it on his driveway.

Ramis Seka  
4534 North Shore Ave.  
Mr. Seka spoke about how he has lived in Lincolnwood for two years and chose Lincolnwood because it is a very nice community. His father, who is a cab driver, left his taxi cab out in the street one night and received a ticket. He understands the Ordinance behind parking commercial vehicles in the street, but also feels that they should be allowed to park a taxi on their driveway because it is private property.

Mr. Sika explained that changing the Code and restricting a taxi from parking in the driveway would be an undue hardship for him and his family.

Chand Siraji  
6878 North Kilpatrick Ave.  
Mr. Siraji has been a resident of Lincolnwood for four years and previously lived in Chicago. He owns a taxi and needs to park his taxi in his driveway.

His family has a one car garage and needs to park the family car in a garage. He needs to park his taxi in the driveway because he comes and goes a lot. He does not understand why the Village is going to force him to pay $100 a week for a parking spot when he pays $14,000 in property taxes. He stated that he should be able park his taxi on his own driveway.

Donald Broniarczyk  
6847 Keating Ave.  
Mr. Broniarczyk said he has been a resident of Lincolnwood for 60 years, and he enjoys living in Lincolnwood. Over the last 20 years there have been too many regulations passed in the Village. Mr. Broniarczyk stated, “These people with their work vehicles in my neighborhood do not bother me. I do a lot of things on and around my house. Please leave these people alone, there are too many regulations.”

Following the input from the community and deliberation, and
Commissioner Nickell made a motion to recommend the following language be incorporated into the Code:

Following review and discussion, the Traffic Commission unanimously voted in favor of revising the Code to include the following:

i. Allow passenger vehicles, motorcycles, passenger vans with RV license plates, and noncommercial vehicles weighing less than 8,000 pounds with passenger or class B license plates to park on residential roadways and private residential driveways.

ii. Prohibit parking any commercial truck, trailer, semi-trailer, bus, or commercial vehicle on any residential roadway or residential driveway between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

iii. Define taxi and livery vehicles as commercial vehicles.

iv. Define non-commercial vehicles as having single rear wheels only, no signs, no advertisements, no business identifications, no business license plates, no attached auxiliary equipment, no snow plows, no equipment racks, and/or no storage boxes or lockers.

v. Prohibit debris, construction materials and/or equipment intended for commercial or business use from being present in a non-commercial vehicle, whether open or covered.

vi. Require non-commercial cargo and panel vans to have side and rear windows and seating behind the driver’s seat.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Troiani. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Public Forum

Mr. Ramis Seka
4534 North Shore Ave.
Mr. Seka commended the Commission for the tough decisions that they had to make.

7. Report by Staff

None

8. Good of the Order
Chair Gelfund reminded the Commissioners that they are welcome and encouraged to come to the Village Board meetings. He would like to see the Commission better represented at the Village Board meetings.

The next Traffic Commission meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2014.

9. Adjournment
There being no further business, at 9:05 p.m., Commissioner Bonner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lee. The motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes prepared by Sergeant Michael Cahill