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Concerned area residents showed up in en masse for an April meeting held by Patriot Acres at Oakton Community College. The composting facility, a short distance away from Glenview's far west side neighborhoods, is looking to open a facility on Central Road across from the college. (Journal photo)

2017: A Year Of Celebration, Loss & Big Plans

By **TOM ROBB**

Journal & Topics Reporter

It was another active year in Glenview filled with new faces, detailed plans for major new projects, anniversary celebrations, losses, concerns and impacts from things the village had little control over.

The following are the Glenview Journal's top stories and honorable mentions of 2017 in no particular order:

Referendum Projects

A New Maple School: Although there are plans for several major projects in Glenview, none receive the kind of attention as those requiring taxpayer referendums to complete.

In April, voters overwhelmingly voted to approve a \$36.3 million referendum bond issue to fund the building of a new Northbrook Glenview Dist. 30 Maple School building, scheduled to open in fall 2019.

The initial building project has an estimated total cost of \$40.6 million, with other projects listed as part of the referendum projects expected to push the cost to \$41.5 million.

The current Maple School building in Northbrook is 67 years old and would require substantial funding just to keep it operational.

Since then, district officials discovered that a new admin-

istration building must be built and cannot be paid for through referendum funds. Officials plan to build an addition to a second floor area of the new school building to house administration offices at an added cost of \$2.1 million.

Glenview Park Projects, Ice Center, Grove: If approved by park board commissioners and voters in March 2018, Glenview Park District taxpayers would likely have to pay for this series of \$33 million in proposed projects via a proposed \$17 million referendum bond issue.

Park district officials have plans to conduct a full \$32 million renovation of the 44-year-old Glenview Ice Center that would essentially create a new ice center, bringing the number of ice rinks from one and a half to two and a half.

The additional full rink would allow park district ice programs currently held at other local ice centers to come back to Glenview, subsequently saving the annual \$100,000 the district spends renting those spaces.

The proposed projects would also make changes at The Grove National Historic Landmark, including a new interpretive center and changes to the main drive and road entrance. The proposal would also set aside \$1 million strictly to acquire open land for the park district.

The cost of the proposed referendum bond issue was

dropped from \$24 million to \$17 million after a series of telephone and mailed surveys and in-person focus groups reflected concerns about cost from community members.

Comprehensive Plans

Both the village of Glenview and Glenview Park District completed comprehensive plans in 2017 to help guide officials through decision making over the next 10 to 20 years.

After starting the planning process in 2015, the village completed its plan in February. Five general themes were identified as areas of focus and the village was divided into 13 sub-areas to focus on in the area of economic development.

The process used a committee led by former village president Kerry Cummings along with stakeholders from many village institutions. Consultants hosted public focus groups and used other means to gather community feedback.

Mid-range goals looked at new street lighting possibilities aimed at coordinating village lighting to a single type, down from the at least five different types of street lighting currently being used.

Long-term goals include opportunities to create new wetlands along the West Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago
(Continued on page 5A)