

Environment & Energy Commission
Minutes of the July 9, 2013 Meeting
Village Hall, Room 130

PRESENT: Commissioners: Laura Hausmann, Mac Robinet, Bob Peterson, Carolyn Cullen, Brian Chang, Nick Bridge, Peter Hugh, Hanna Kwiecinska and Caitlin Jeffries

STAFF: Karen Rozmus

The June 4 minutes were approved as amended.

Chairperson Report: Laura reported that the next Chairpersons' meeting is scheduled for July 31. Laura also reminded members that the Commission Award ceremony will be held at Village hall on July 29.

Staff Reports: Staff reports were accepted without comment. In the legislative report Karen stated that the Village Board adopted the burn ordinance to allow proscribed burning rules for native landscape maintenance. She also reported that extended producer responsibility for paint were introduced in the Illinois Assembly but did not pass in the 2013 session. This legislation is still deemed to be active.

New Liaison: Ray Johnson attended as the new Board liaison to EEC. Members introduced themselves and ask Ray for his comments on environmental issues facing the Village. Ray stated that Board concerns include the negative impact of the Eisenhower expansion and the need for a new RFP for energy aggregation due in 2014.

Discussion Items

A. Promote Water Conservation Practices

Laura asked if any members had thoughts on participating in other events this year for tabling events. Karen can provide handouts for any member who needs them. Peter volunteered to create some visual displays that he will take to Scoville Park concerts, etc. Laura asked Karen to gather information on upcoming events and check on the new web site so the web address can be used on EEC materials. Laura also asked Karen to check on the new plumbing codes being adopted by the State. Bob commented on one correction he found in the Water Conservation Plan; Karen will forward it to KC.

B. Lawn to Lake

This program is included in the Water Conservation Plan adopted by the Village. Laura asked that this item be removed from the agenda. It can be added to the agenda again if needed as the Water Conservation Plan is implemented.

C. Research Pesticide Avoidance and Native Planting Initiative

Laura gave Carolyn the materials she received from Peggy McGrath. Laura and Carolyn will research state laws regarding residents' rights for notification for landscaped applications.

D. Review PlanItGreen Scorecard

This item can be removed from the agenda. However, members asked if the Village has plans to develop Zero Waste Block Party information. Carolyn stated that the information is already included in the packet. Karen will add composting information and find out how the information is distributed.

E. White Roof Brochure

This item requires no action and can be removed from the agenda.

F. EEC Environmental Plan Update

Karen has not completed the update yet.

G. HPC Guidelines

Ray Johnson reviewed the minutes on the action taken with regards to the HPC Window Guideline and stated that the EEC is not required to re-vote on this issue. He suggested that EEC draft a memo to HPC declaring that the vote was a tie. Laura asked that this item be removed from the agenda until any future action is requested. She will email Frank Heitzman to set a meeting and notify EEC.

H. Comprehensive Plan Workshop

Laura attended the third workshop where goals and objectives for each section of the plan were finalized. Participants were asked to submit any benchmarks they can. There may be a final workshop but no date has been set.

I. Draft Anti-Idling Ordinance

Karen will review Illinois and Chicago ordinances and draft a recommendation from EEC. The drafts will be forwarded to the Transportation Commission for review at their July meeting. Bob brought up gasoline-powered lawn mowers with regards to clean air initiatives. Karen stated that these were discussed at length during the leaf blower ordinance hearings but she will look at budgeting for another lawnmower exchange. Bob will gather facts for an educational piece.

J. Review of Procedures

Members reviewed the procedures drafted by Laura and they were approved by unanimous vote.

New Business

Laura asked for volunteers for the Green Awards Committee – Bob and Brian will serve.

Nick had forwarded the River Forest Plan to manage storm water with fees based on the amount of permeable pavement on the property. He will research similar programs and report back to EEC.

Peter reported that the Sugar Beet Edible Garden Tour is scheduled for July 27 and the Green Community Connections Living and Learning Tour is scheduled for September 28.

Adjourn: 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Karen Rozmus