

Environment & Energy Commission
Minutes of the October 1, 2013 Meeting
Village Hall, Room 102

PRESENT: Commissioners: Nick Bridge, Bob Peterson, Brian Chang, Peter Hugh, Hanna Kwiecinska, Caitlin Jeffries and Townsend Bailey and Bill Burns

ABSENT: Carolyn Cullen participated by phone.

STAFF: Karen Rozmus and K.C. Doyle

The September 3 minutes were approved unanimously.

Chairperson Report: Nick reported that as the new Chair, he had met with staff to discuss issues contained in the EEC workplan. Nick stated that he would like to narrow and intensify EEC efforts as members develop the 2014 workplan.

Staff Reports: A joint staff report detailing staff work on anti-idling and website content was accepted without comment. Karen had no updates on legislation. K.C. reported that the Village has joined the Earth Hour City Challenge and she will be working on tracking metrics for greenhouse gas emissions. She also stated that the Village will receive a \$30,000 grant from “Smart City” to invest in renewable and energy efficient initiatives.

Public Comment: Resident Peggy McGrath asked EEC for support in public education efforts to inform residents of their right to request notification of lawn applications. She stated that she would be happy to work with EEC to host a forum or add the issue to the PlanItGreen plan.

Discussion Items

A. PlanItGreen Scorecard Review

K.C. gave a summary of how the scorecard was developed and stated that three categories scored well: Energy; Education; and Waste. She stated that the PlanItGreen team will be developing metrics for local transportation options. K.C. also reported that the aggregation program resulted in a 31% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and that the program will achieve carbon-neutral status due to carbon offsets purchased by Integrys for natural gas usage until June 2014. She will be researching future aggregation options for the next contract in 2014.

Nick asked if the Transportation section of the scorecard includes bicycle usage? K.C. believes so but will check on how that is measured. She thanked EEC for their education efforts on the Water Conservation Plan. Members agreed that the 2013 Scorecard be submitted earlier in the year so that new initiatives might be included in the village budget for 2015.

B. Green Awards

On behalf of the committee, Bob summarized the eight nominations. After much discussion on the merits of each nomination, a motion to bestow eight awards was approved unanimously. Bob will draft the list of highlights and Karen will order the glass awards.

C. Work Plan

Nick led the discussion on the 2014 workplan and offered new projects. Karen suggested an item from the Water Conservation Plan to include. A motion to adopt the 2014 workplan as discussed was approved unanimously. Karen will send the final draft to members for review before it is submitted to the Village Manager's Office.

New Business

Hanna provided some information on new trends and possible requirements to track energy usage in large buildings. She will send the information to EEC members to review.

Adjourn: 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Karen Rozmus