



**MEETING MINUTES
CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT COMMISSION (CIC)
Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Remote Participation**

I. Call to Order

Village Clerk Waters called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Eid, Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga

Absent: Commissioners Kill, Miller and Chair Kolar (late)

Also present: Village Clerk Christina M. Waters

Village Clerk Waters read into the record a statement that the Village President has determined that an in-person public hearing is not practical or prudent due to the COVID-19 outbreak during Governor Pritzker's current disaster proclamation. It is also not feasible to have a person present at the public hearing due to the safety concern related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

III. Acting Chair

It was moved by Commissioner Wesonga and seconded by Commissioner Lott to appoint Commissioner Eid as Acting Chair in Chair Kolar's absence. A roll call was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Eid, Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Kill, Miller and Chair Kolar (late)

IV. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Elling requested to add two agenda items: liaison assignments and application review. Village Clerk Waters responded that those items were not included in the agenda because there are three interviews to be conducted in this meeting and the Work Plan discussion will be lengthy and may be better addressed in a special meeting. Commissioner Song wondered if amending the agenda would violate the Open Meetings Act. Acting Chair Eid recommended the agenda to be approved as presented and this matter be revisited by the commission at a future date. It was moved by Commissioner Elling and seconded by Commissioner Song to approve the agenda as presented. A roll call was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Acting Chair Eid and Commissioners Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Kill, Miller and Chair Kolar (late)

V. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes (October 12, 2022)

Commissioner Roman noted Section I has a typo of “pan” instead of “plan” and Julie Johnston-Ahlen is included in both Sections G and H. Commissioner Eid responded that Section G is correct as is and in Section H, the “Julie Johnston-Ahlen” should be replaced with “Kate Odom.” It was moved by Commissioner Roman and seconded by Commissioner Wesonga to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2022 meeting as amended. A roll call was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Acting Chair Eid and Commissioners Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Kill, Miller and Chair Kolar (late)

VI. Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

VII. New Business:

A) A Motion to Conduct Volunteer Applicant Interviews for the Following Individuals to be Considered for an Advisory Board, Commission and/or Committee:

It was moved by Commissioner Lott and seconded by Commissioner Wesonga to Conduct Volunteer Applicant Interviews for the Individuals to be Considered for an Advisory Board, Commission and/or Committee. A roll call was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Acting Chair Eid and Commissioners Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Kill, Miller and Chair Kolar (late)

George Bailey – Aging in Place Commission

George Bailey is a 30-year Oak Park resident. He has done youth advocacy work and served on the Youth Services Committee for many years. He is involved in the Oak Park Area Arts Council. He is a retired educator from the English Department at Columbia College. He has a personal interest in aging in place and the issues confronting the Boomer generation in particular and how they will be affected by the changes in our democratic republic and realize their full capacity to do what they envision themselves doing as they age gracefully. He also mentioned issues of adequate housing, representation, and a sense of value and worth.

Chair Kolar joined the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Carl Spight – Aging in Place Commission

Carl Spight is a 35-year Oak Park resident who is a homeowner and believes Oak Park’s real estate taxes are intimidating. He is retired and works part-time teaching STEM at a private school on Chicago’s west side. His 50+ year career was as a scientist, researcher, and educator at all levels of education. He has been an activist in Oak Park as long as he has been a resident and was past president of African American Parents for Purposeful Leadership in Education (APPLE). He was involved with OPRF’s efforts to understand discipline and achievement gaps and he authored a landmark study from 2003. He is interested in the issues of aging in place as he experiences them firsthand.

Emily Neumann – Environment & Energy Commission

Emily Neumann is a 7-year Oak Park resident who is a renter and owns an eco-friendly flower company in Forest Park that specializes in event floral and interior plantscaping. She was an eco-friendly wedding planner previously. As a younger person, the climate crisis facing this community, the country, and the globe is shaping her awareness. She loves nature and wants access to more green space as a renter. She has a degree in sustainability and used to live in Washington state so she has education and exposure to places that are ahead of others. She is interested in sharing her knowledge and being part of these types of initiatives in Oak Park.

VIII. Motion to Chair

It was moved by Commissioner Wesonga and seconded by Commissioner Song to re-appoint Chair Kolar as Chair effective 7:56 p.m. A roll call was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Eid, Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga and Chair Kolar

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Kill, Miller

IX. New Business (continued):

B) A Motion to Discuss the 2022 Work Plan Accomplishments and 2023 Work Plan Goals

Chair Kolar said some items not started in 2022 will roll over to 2023 now that the commission is fully staffed and new items can be added to 2023. Chair Kolar led the commission through a discussion of the 2023 Work Plan, which Chair Kolar and Village Clerk Waters will draft based on the commission's feedback and recommendations and will present the draft 2023 Work Plan for approval at the December meeting.

Commissioner Eid left the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

X. Motion to Enter into Executive Session

It was moved by Commissioner Roman, seconded by Commissioner Wesonga, to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) – to discuss the appointment of volunteers to the Village at 8:39 P.M. A roll call vote was taken. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga and Chair Kolar

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioners Eid, Kill, Miller

XI. Return to Open Session

The meeting returned to Open Session at 8:45 P.M.

- C) It was moved by Commissioner Wesonga, seconded by Commissioner Song, to Approve the Recommendation to the Village President to Appoint George Bailey to the Aging in Place Commission. A roll call vote was taken. The roll call was as follows:
Ayes: Commissioners Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga and Chair Kolar
Nays: None
Absent: Commissioners Eid, Kill, Miller
- D) It was moved by Commissioner Wesonga, seconded by Commissioner Song, to Approve the Recommendation to the Village President to Appoint Carl Spight to the Aging in Place Commission. A roll call vote was taken. The roll call was as follows:
Ayes: Commissioners Roman, Song, Wesonga and Chair Kolar
Nays: Commissioners Elling, Lott
Absent: Commissioners Eid, Kill, Miller
- E) It was moved by Commissioner Roman, seconded by Commissioner Wesonga, to Approve the Recommendation to the Village President to Appoint Emily Neumann to the Environment & Energy Commission. A roll call vote was taken. The roll call was as follows:
Ayes: Commissioners Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga and Chair Kolar
Nays: None
Absent: Commissioners Eid, Kill, Miller

XII. Old Business

Chair Kolar will connect with Village Clerk Waters to make recommendations for the four remaining commissioners and will present them at the December meeting for commissioners' feedback. Commissioner Elling inquired about the process for amending an agenda. Chair Kolar responded that items may be removed and rearranged, but new items cannot be added at a meeting. Village Clerk Waters confirmed this, as items are required to be posted 48 hours in advance of a meeting. Commissioner Elling requested a permanent item be added to request items from commissioners for the subsequent meeting. Chair Kolar agreed to add some language like "Items for Next Month's Agenda" between Old Business and Adjournment going forward.

XIII. Adjourn

It was moved by Commissioner Roman, seconded by Commissioner Elling, to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken at 8:54 p.m. The roll call was as follows:

- Ayes:** Commissioners Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga and Chair Kolar
Nays: None
Absent: Commissioners Eid, Kill, Miller

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Hansen, Deputy Village Clerk