

AGENDA
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
October 18, 2018
7:00 P.M.
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM 206

1. Consideration of September 27, 2018 Meeting Minutes

2. Public Comment

3. Discussion of “Giving to the Trees” Program Initiatives with Village Arborist Todd Stewart, Urban Forest Management
 - a. *Tree Walk – September 2019*
 - b. *Care of Trees – October 2019*

4. Next Meeting Date and Time – Thursday, November 15

**MEETING MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
September 27, 2018**

A meeting of the Sustainability Commission was held on Thursday, September 27, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Deerfield Village Hall, 850 Waukegan Road, in the Community Conference Room 206. Chairman Don Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance were:

Present:

Don Anderson, Chairman

Dick Heller

Laurie Leibowitz

Bill Mertes

Michael Shalen

Absent was:

Maria Albulesco

Daniel Dorfman

Brian Wolkenberg

Also present:

Andrew Lichterman, Assistant Village Manager

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Leibowitz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Shalen to approve the minutes of the August 30, 2018 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comment

Mr. Art Wilde provided an update on the Go Green Group noting that the group is focusing on energy usage related to climate change, land use and tree protection. He noted that the group could help bridge a connection around tree preservation since that is a focus of the Sustainability Commission too. He extended an invitation for all to attend their meetings.

LED Lighting Education

Commissioner Shalen summarized a report on the LED Lighting Program. He noted that in the 60015 zip code 137 residences have participated in the ComEd program resulting in the installation of 9,585 free LED light installations. This equates to a savings of 391,748 kWh per year, which is a phenomenal energy savings. He recommended having ComEd attend an upcoming meeting to explore how the Commission can help promote the program.

Chairman Anderson noted that our value add can include helping ComEd to promote the program, amongst other things. Commissioner Mertes inquired about ComEd's current promotional efforts. Commissioner Shalen noted the program is on their website but the name of the program can also be improved.

Mr. Wilde shared a report from UC Berkley that showed energy consumption by zip code, noting this area uses a significant amount of energy at 72 metric tons per household. He suggested finding ways to use this information to help us measure our energy reduction from the LED program.

Chairman Anderson agreed an appropriate next step would be to have ComEd come to an upcoming meeting to discuss the program. He suggested we learn more about how ComEd promotes the program, how Deerfield customers are performing relative to others, what metric ComEd suggests that we evaluate over what time period, and what the Commission can do to be of help to ComEd.

Commissioner Leibowitz reaffirmed that this program would complement the other energy programs occurring in partnership with District 109.

Mr. Wilde inquired if goals for the program have been outlined yet. He asked if the Commission is promoting the ComEd program or if they are promoting other ways to drive light efficiency as well. Chairman Anderson noted that we are exploring this initiative and need to understand the best practices that ComEd has developed and then we can formulate our goals to measure our success. The presumption is that ComEd has a lot of data around this program that can help inform our decision making.

Trees

Commissioner Leibowitz noted that the subcommittee held a meeting with Jay Zahn of Park District, the owner of Urban Forest Management and Justin Keenan of Public Works. She noted there are two ideas around tree education that are proposed: (1) An educational tree walk led by the Village Arborist; and, (2) an active tree care day that provides volunteers a hands-on learning experience.

Tree Walk

One idea would be to have a poster contest to promote the event with the winner selected/announced on Arbor Day to help build up promotion to the event which would likely occur in September. The subcommittee would work with the Arbor Day Foundation to solicit additional resources. September would be a convenient time to partner with the Park District and it is also an ideal time to plant.

Commissioner Leibowitz noted that goals of the program include:

- a. Educate citizens about care of trees, threats and benefits,
- b. Promote people to plant trees on their property
- c. Raise awareness of resources in the area related to tree care

The subcommittee identified Jewett Park and Maplewood Park as possible locations that would include enough tree inventory that the arborist could identify tree care practices and threats. We would create a handout that would include a listing of the trees that participants would see during the walk and tips on caring for those trees. The facilitators could discuss best practices, such as selection of native species and proper pruning, mulching, and watering technics. This would also be an ideal time to educate citizens about the Village's 50/50 Tree Program as well.

Tree Care

Commissioner Leibowitz reported that the hands-on tree care program would ideally be scheduled in October and take place at the Briarwood Nature Area, which is Park District property. This could include planting tree saplings and removal of buckthorn. The program could promote bio-diversity and the hope would be to include the scouts, houses of worship and the Go Green Group as hands-on participants.

Commissioner Leibowitz noted that goals for this program needs to be further refined but perhaps participation, number of trees planted and number of volunteer hours could be meaningful metrics.

Chairman Anderson inquired if we can learn the number of ash trees there were lost on public and private property. He suggested that we could then quantitatively assess the carbon footprint impact of losing those trees.

Mr. Lichterman reported that approximately 12 households participated in the Village's 50/50 Tree Program this year and 9 households participated last year.

Commissioner Leibowitz noted that Mr. Zahn of the Park District is going to provide her with a listing and information about the trees we expect to see on the walk. We will need to further refine promotions around both events including details of the poster contest.

Mr. Wilde noted the importance of including children and suggested that they could tag trees in their backyards. He is also concerned with the loss of trees due to redevelopment in the Village.

Commissioner Anderson inquired if we know the number of trees removed village-wide each year. Mr. Lichterman will investigate and report at the next meeting.

Chairman Anderson requested that we have the Village Arborist attend the next meeting.

Adjournment

Commissioner Heller made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leibowitz. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Lichterman
Assistant Village Manager