

**MEETING MINUTES  
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
February 15, 2018**

A meeting of the Sustainability Commission was held on Thursday, February 15, 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  
Daniel Dorfman  
Dick Heller  
Laurie Leibowitz  
Bill Mertes  
Michael Shalen

Absent was:

Gloria Threats  
Brian Wolkenberg  
Chenlin Zhao

Also present:

Andrew Lichterman, Assistant Village Manager

**Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Shalen made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dorfman to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2018 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Public Comment**

Mr. George McClintick stated that he has a general interest to learn more about sustainability and would like to get involved at the local level. He observed that the Sierra Club "Ready for 100" initiative was discussed at last meeting and sees that the Mayor has signed on to various sustainability agreements that address 100% renewable energy. He inquired about specific actions the Commission is pursuing related to renewables and other green initiatives. Chairman Anderson reported on various Commission initiatives including our partnerships with schools, past participation in the electric aggregation consortium, which allowed renewable energy credits to be purchased, and the Commission explored the installation of electric vehicle charging stations.

Ms. Camilla Dadey stated that she endorses a prohibition on coal tar sealants and recommends that the Commission take a position to ban coal tar sealants village wide. There is no reason to wait any longer. Several communities around us have already banned the product. She noted that she is also interested in municipal composting. Chairman Anderson thanked her for her comments. Mr. Lichterman noted that residential composting is permitted but a village wide program will be explored in greater detail at the time the municipal waste hauling contract is up for renewal.

Ms. Amy Call stated she is interested in learning about how the Village is supporting green energy. She is planning to install solar panels and inquired about Village regulations. Mr. Lichterman noted that solar and wind turbine installations are permitted and he would provide Ms. Call with a copy of the ordinance. Ms. Call suggested including information on the website and in D-Tales letting residents know that solar

panels are allowed in the Village and making the information easier to find. She noted that she is also on the Green Team at Walden School along with Commissioner Wolkenberg and she is available to help coordinate events at the school again this year in celebration of Earth Day. She noted her interest in a community garden, native plants and migratory birds. She suggested that the Commission could help educate residents about what trees and shrubs to plant in their backyards to help the ecosystem and mitigate flooding.

Mr. Roger Dart and his wife stated their support for a ban on coal tar products in the Village.

### **Review of Coal Tar Sealant Recommendation**

Chairman Anderson noted that a report has been prepared for the Board to consider on Tuesday night recommending an education program around coal tar sealants. Chairman Anderson asked members to join him at the Board meeting on Tuesday. Mr. Lichterman discussed logistics of the Board's review process. Mr. Lichterman shared the agenda item that is being sent to the Board, which includes the Commission's written report. He noted the report also includes emails received by staff and a petition signed by approximately 40 people supporting a ban on coal tar.

### **Energy Conservation Program/ Earth Day Activities**

Commissioner Dorfman reported that he is working with Commissioner Wolkenberg to solidify the energy conservation programs at District 109 planned for Earth Day. As the program evolves, we continue to learn what works and what does not and how to make it better. Mr. Dorfman noted that he is handling logistics at South Park and Caruso and Commissioner Wolkenberg is spearheading the initiatives at Walden and Shepard. He noted there have been personnel changes at the schools so some of last year's contacts are no longer present. Ms. Call noted that she is willing to help with programs at Walden as well. Commissioner Dorfman noted that he needs assistance connecting with Walgreens, as they have historically hosted a program at Shepard. Mr. Lichterman noted that he would reach out to Walgreens.

Chairman Anderson asked if there are other initiatives to promote around Earth Day. Commissioner Heller suggested a guide to help residents clean their yard of invasive species such as mustard greens and buckthorn. Ms. Call noted that perhaps this could be coupled with an educational piece about which trees to plant for Arbor Day.

Chairman Anderson asked Mr. Lichterman to reach out to the Park District to see if they need help with any clean up around Earth Day.

### **Ideas for Community Outreach**

The Commission reviewed the list of 13 ideas that were taken from the book *Drawdown* by Paul Hawken. Ms. Leibowitz briefly summarized and noted the benefits of each initiative, which included:

- Plant Rich Diet
- Reduced Food Waste
- Composting
- Walkable Cities
- Bike Infrastructure
- LED Lighting
- Smart Thermostats
- Insulation
- Water Distribution
- Building Automation

- Electric Vehicles
- Ridesharing
- Recycled Paper

In addition, the Commission suggested the following concepts as other possible initiatives to consider:

- Giving to the Trees – includes promoting the benefits of trees and perhaps a tree sapling give-away event.
- Recycling Education – further advancing recycling education, perhaps with community events.

Chairman Anderson asked the Commissioners to prioritize this list and vote for their top five. The top five initiatives were:

1. Residential Composting
2. Walkability/Bikes (particularly around the Lake Cook Road corridor)
3. Residential LED Lighting Education
4. Giving to the Trees Concept
5. Residential Recycling Education

Mr. Lichterman noted that SWALCO could also be a valuable resource to assist with some of these initiatives. Commissioner Heller noted that some of these initiatives such as recycling might be a natural way to continue our partnerships with the school districts.

Chairman Anderson thanked the Commissioners for their thoughtful participation and noted the top five items would be included as discussion items on the next agenda.

#### **Other Items for Discussion**

Commissioner Dorfman requested that the ICLEI, Local Governments for Sustainability program also be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Lichterman  
Assistant Village Manager