

**MEETING MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
July 26, 2018**

A meeting of the Sustainability Commission was held on Thursday, July 26, 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
Maria Albulesco
Dick Heller
Bill Mertes
Laurie Leibowitz

Absent was:

Daniel Dorfman
Brian Wolkenberg
Michael Shalen

Also present:

David Fitzgerald, Management Analyst

Announcement

Chairman Anderson announced the resignation of Chenlin Zho. He thanked Management Analyst David Fitzgerald for stepping in due to staff liaison Lichterman's absence.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Heller made a motion seconded by Commissioner Shalen to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2018 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Prioritized Community Outreach Initiatives

Commissioner Leibowitz would like to pick two initiatives, as has been done in the past. She believes it will allow Commissioners to get involved. Commissioner Shalen inquired if that would include the school outreach or if it was separate. Commissioner Heller noted the topics could be tailored to present in schools as a new topics.

Chairman Anderson asked the group to discuss the school initiatives and whether to continue with the energy and water programs or to expand to another area of focus. Commissioner Leibowitz would like to get input from the schools on what topics they are interested in. Commissioner Heller stated he believes that the impact of sustainability is felt by educating children to change behavior now and experiencing the benefits in the future. Commissioner Heller noted that the concept of water could touch on other areas of sustainability. Chairman Anderson noted he would like the Commission to stay focused on strategic initiatives while also maintaining relationships. Commissioner Leibowitz noted that the water taste test is a good attention grabber and could be used to help promote new outreach initiatives at community events.

Chairman Anderson asked the members to summarize the potential community outreach initiatives being discussed. He reported on residential composting, noting that composting food waste reduces landfill content. He noted that this could be incorporated into a future waste hauling contract, and may be better addressed at that time.

Chairman Anderson reported about the walkability/bikes initiative. He reported that the Village has good sidewalks and connectivity. He reviewed the Village's walkability study and believes the Village is in good shape and this topic is not as pressing as others. Commissioner Heller noted he would encourage the Village to continue to work to improve sidewalks.

Commissioner Shalen reported on the LED lighting education initiative. He noted that ComEd has a program where they replace all of the lightbulbs in a home with LED lightbulbs and then report on the energy savings experienced. He noted this reduces the number of lightbulbs that end up in landfills and saves energy, while reducing the use of fluorescent light bulbs that can contain mercury. He noted that ComEd physically changes the bulbs. Chairman Anderson noted that the energy savings are substantial. He stated that First Presbyterian Church did a complete retrofit of their lighting and their energy use is down 30 percent after three months. Commissioner Albulesco noted that Walgreens is doing a similar program in stores and experiencing substantial savings.

Commissioner Leibowitz reported on "Giving to the Trees." She noted that she would like to see this initiative connect people to tree care information, best trees to plant, use of pesticides and trimming. She suggested having speakers including arborists or do a walking tour to show examples of tree species and proper care. She would also like to highlight removing buckthorn and proper mulching. She believes trees are important and we need to think long term about their health. She noted that it could be used in the school outreach program.

Commissioner Heller reported the residential recycling program would include an information campaign about how to recycle or be better at recycling. He believes it is an important area of focus and will require research to improve on current education campaigns. Commissioner Albulesco reported that Walgreens had a lunch and learn with a recycling expert and was surprised by the information. She will share information with the group. Chairman Anderson reported on a recent discussion with Peter Adrian from SWALCO about significant changes in the global recycling market.

Commissioner Leibowitz suggested taking two initiatives, one that can be addressed quickly and one that can be more in depth. Chairman Anderson noted that composting and walkability are not viable options at this time. He asked the Commissioners to choose two of the three. Commissioner Heller suggested having speakers come to address each of these topics. Chairman Anderson would like to keep the Commission focused on key initiatives and not diluting their work. Commissioner Leibowitz believes that the residential recycling initiative has an immediate need due to the changes happening now. She believes it would have a more immediate impact. Commissioner Heller discussed including the LED lighting project in the school energy awareness week and then the trees could be the second project. Commissioner Albulesco liked the idea of inviting SWALCO to events based off of her past professional interaction with them. She noted Walgreens is currently working to increase recycling and promote composting. Commissioner Leibowitz discussed the different bins with pictures at the botanic garden. Chairman Anderson liked the "Giving to the Trees" program, but would like to see it more tailored to one key priority.

Commissioner Heller motioned to seek a more focused tree option and to seek input from District 109 on topic areas that they could collaborate with the Commission. This includes having input from

Commissioner Dorfman and Wolkenberg since they are the liaisons to the District. Commissioner Leibowitz seconded the motion.

Chairman Anderson noted that it is important to have Commissioners Wolkenberg and Dorfman present when voting on our key initiatives.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Farmers Market Event

Chairman Anderson noted that the market is a great opportunity to present on a topic. Commissioner Leibowitz wants something to be interactive, like the water taste test event. Recycling education would be a good item with a demonstration. Chairman Anderson suggested reaching out to SWALCO about a recycling activity. Commissioner Heller will reach out to SWALCO to coordinate.

Introduction of Commissioner Albulesco

Chairman Anderson asked Commissioner Albulesco to discuss her background with the Commission. She reported she has worked for Walgreens for 6 ½ years on in-store development, design and construction, and store planning. She is LEAD certified for construction and is the project manager for Working Group Environmental Sustainability Network at the Corporate Campus. She is also on the leadership team for the Illinois Green Alliance. She is excited to be on the Commission and work with the Village.

Adjournment

Commissioner Leibowitz made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Heller. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David Fitzgerald
Management Analyst