

AGENDA
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
May 20, 2021
7:00 P.M.
Remote Meeting via Zoom

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://deerfieldil.zoom.us/j/89317109439?pwd=d1VzK3pDdDd6YWFjRVNqL3BhMGp6QT09>

Passcode: m8fXi36=

Or Telephone:

US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656

Webinar ID: 893 1710 9439

Passcode: 51053355

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Consideration and Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - March 4, 2021
 - April 15, 2021
4. Public Comment

Village residents wishing to respectfully share thoughts about any matter concerning the Village may do so by submitting an email to sustainabilitycomment@deerfield.il.us prior to the meeting. Emails received will be read aloud during Public Comment. Any e-mails received during the meeting will be read during the second public comment before the end of the meeting. We ask that you keep your emailed response to under 200 words to allow time for others to be heard and for the Commission to progress through the public meeting agenda. In addition, members of the public may provide oral comments by telephone or web-based video conference during all meetings of the Commission during the time designated for public comment provided that such comments do not exceed three minutes in duration. The Commission typically does not immediately respond to public comments or engage in open dialogue, but we are of course actively listening to your comments.

At least one representative from the Commission will be present at Village Hall and the virtual meeting will be simulcast at Village Hall for members of the public who do not wish to view the virtual meeting from another location. Pursuant to Restore Illinois Phase 4, the opportunity to view the virtual meeting at Village Hall is available on a “first come, first-served” basis due to limited capacity.

5. Curbside Composting Education Campaign and Programs
 - Compost Toolkits
 - Video Series

- Possible Library and Park District Events with SWALCO
- Electronic Collection Event – June 19 or 26
- Possible District 109 (Shepard Middle School) Compost Pilot Program

6. Care of Trees Initiatives

- Chicago River Day – Recap
- Tree Walk Program
- 50/50 Parkway Tree Program

7. Sustainability Commission Role re: GHG Proclamation

8. Other Items for Discussion:

- Update re: Aggregation 2.0 Program – 100% Renewable Energy
- SWALCO attendance at future meeting

9. Public Comment

10. Next Meeting Date – Thursday, June 17 @ 7PM

**MEETING MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
March 4, 2021**

A meeting of the Sustainability Commission was held on Thursday, March 4, 2021 via Zoom.
In attendance were:

Present:

Don Anderson, Chairman
Maria Albulesco
Amy Call
Dick Heller
Karrah Krakovyak
Bill Mertes
Michael Shalen
Brian Wolkenberg

Absent:

Deborah Tomez

Also present:

Andrew Lichterman, Assistant Village Manager

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. and a virtual quorum was present.

Consideration of Minutes

Commissioner Mertes made a motion seconded by Commissioner Shalen to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2021 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously by a roll call vote.

Public Comment

There was no one present for public comment on a non-agenda item.

Residential Solid Waste Contract

Chairman Anderson requested Mr. Lichterman to briefly review the staff memo. Mr. Lichterman noted that the new tri-fold brochure with all the basic solid waste contract information was mailed to all Deerfield homes. He noted that the kitchen compost pails are on order and should arrive at the end of this month. 1,000 pails will be given away as part of a compost toolkit to help residents get started. He noted that staff is working with Civil Agents, an expert marketing firm, to develop a multi-month educational campaign. Lastly, the staff memo included disposal rate metrics from the SWALCO 2019 Solid Waste Management Plan to help the Commission establish a goal for our purposes. The report includes a 2030 goal of 1.35 pounds per capita per day (pcd). The Village's current rate as of the last reporting period (2018) was 1.56 pcd. Notably, the report indicates that organics account for 25% of the landfill waste in Lake County. The pcd data is a good metric to use to measure our program because that data will be readily available from the hauler.

Commissioner Shalen complimented the tri-fold brochure noting it contained a lot of useful information. Chairman Anderson noted that the SWALCO report indicated that of the 42 communities measured in Lake County, Deerfield has the third highest disposal rate.

Most of the public comments received by the Commissioners to date have been relative to the fact that residents do not want a third container; however, it helps to point out that they can be used for yard waste in lieu of the sticker program and that residents can reduce the size of their garbage container.

Commissioner Wolkenberg expressed interest in continuing to hear feedback and comments from the public related to the compost program so we can adjust, as needed. Chairman Anderson concurred and noted that he sees one of our roles as Commissioners is to engage our neighbors and send that feedback on to staff. Mr. Lichterman noted that we have regular meetings with customer service teams both at the Village and LakeShore Recycling Systems to identify the main causes for concern. At this time, most compost calls are related to finding space for the third cart.

Commissioner Heller expressed interest in moving some of our marketing and educational efforts into the schools. He also suggested some coordinated educational efforts with the library. Chairman Anderson suggested that Commissioner Heller and Commissioner Krakovyak work with staff to provide some feedback on the compost education campaign prior to the next meeting.

Chairman Anderson suggested establishing a goal for the diversion rate over a 12-month period. Commissioner Wolkenberg suggested setting a reasonable goal that could be achievable. He noted the SWALCO goal of 1.35 pcd is probably the most informed data point we have in front of us right now so that is probably a reasonable point to work towards over the next year.

Commissioner Heller asked what level of granular compost data we can receive. Mr. Lichterman noted the hauler may will not be able to provide details on the exact products that are not making it into the compost bin but we could conduct our own survey at some future juncture if we thought that was appropriate. Chairman Anderson also noted that we probably have a lot to learn from the City of Highwood's program since it has been in place for a number of years.

Chairman Anderson requested that we continue the discussion next month and try to set a goal at that time when we have some additional information relative to Highwood's experience.

Report of the Tree Subcommittee

Mr. Mertes summarized the proposed revisions to the Village's Tree Preservation Ordinance that will be voted on by the Village Board later this month. He noted that there is a new category of Heritage Trees that will require higher mitigation fees. Other updates include removing low quality trees/shrubs, such as arbor vitae, from qualifying trees that offset mitigation costs. Also, the ordinance includes language to limit monoculture plantings and includes an incentive for removing invasive species such as buckthorn.

Chairman Anderson noted that the language in the ordinance allows for mitigation fees to be lessened if invasive species are removed concurrently. He suggested that maybe the credit should be expanded to offer a greater economic benefit for removing invasive even if done separate from a tree removal. Commissioner Call agreed and suggested that the idea of providing an incentive for removing buckthorn and the educational campaign around buckthorn removal is a worthwhile endeavor that should be pursued further in the future.

Commissioner Mertes reported that the Tree Subcommittee also discussed the Tree Walk event. Commissioner Call is working with the Park District to identify a park to host the next event; targeted for either September 25 or October 2. The Subcommittee also recommends driving people to participate in the Friends of the Chicago River workday scheduled for May 8 at Trail Tree Park and Trinity Church. They are seeking 30 volunteers for each site.

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Lastly, the Subcommittee discussed the 50/50 Parkway Tree Program noting a considerable increase in recent years up from 19 tree plantings in 2017 to 61 plantings in 2020. The Subcommittee recommends subsidizing more than one tree per household and suggested the Village Arborist review the inclusion of the Chanticleer Pear since it has been identified as an invasive species. Chairman Anderson suggested the Arborist review the Pear tree further and suggest an alternative species that meets the same criteria as hardiness, aesthetics, and desirability.

Community Solar Program

Chairman Anderson noted that Go Green Deerfield has submitted a request for the Commission to partner with them by funding yard signs at a cost of approximately \$500. Chairman Anderson noted that the Village is leading the other six communities that are part of this program in number of subscriptions. Commissioner Shalen expressed apprehension with funding the program since we have a number of initiatives the Commission is actively involved in and the Community Solar initiative isn't something that has been driven at the Commission level. Chairman Anderson concurs with Commissioner Shalen's assessment and noted that our focus remains on the solid waste contract, specifically the recycling and composting initiatives, tree programs and the ComEd energy conservation program.

Ms. Call noted that this initiative does fit in with the sustainable proclamation adopted by the Village Board to drive down our greenhouse gas emissions. All of these initiatives - composting, tree preservation, and promoting solar - fit in with reducing our greenhouse gas emissions. Chairman Anderson thanked Go Green for their request and suggested that perhaps we can revisit this in the future, when election season is over and there would be less political yard signs to compete with.

100% Green Residential Aggregation Program

Mr. Lichterman reported that the NSEAC members will be issuing a Request for Proposals on March 12 and we are targeting a report to the Village Board in April or May to bring more renewable energy to our residents.

Public Comment

Mr. Art Wilde reminded the Commission that in early 2020 the Village Board approved a proclamation to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and he is bringing it up because it speaks to the magnitude of the effort and that the Village is calling on all of us to do our part to meet that objective. We need to cut our carbon footprint in half by 2030 and bring it to zero by 2050. As the Commission sets goals, let's identify what the goal needs to be to reach the objective of the proclamation. Mr. Wilde also inquired about what types of programs Go Green Deerfield can focus on to form partnerships with the Commission. Go Green Deerfield brought forth the Community Solar proposal because we thought that would be a natural area of overlap with the Commission.

Chairman Anderson thanked Mr. Wilde for his comments and noted the focus areas include recycling, energy conservation, specifically related to a ComEd energy conservation program, and the care of trees related to helping people understand the value of trees, how to reduce invasive species and how to plant and take better care of our urban forest.

Next meeting Date

The next meeting date will be April 15 at 7 p.m.

Adjournment

Commissioner Heller made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mertes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The meeting was adjourned via a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

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Andrew Lichterman
Assistant Village Manager

**MEETING MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
April 15, 2021**

A meeting of the Sustainability Commission was held on Thursday, April 15, 2021 via Zoom.
In attendance were:

Present:

Don Anderson, Chairman
Amy Call
Dick Heller
Karrah Krakovyak
Bill Mertes
Brian Wolkenberg

Absent:

Maria Albulesco
Michael Shalen
Deborah Tomez

Also present:

Andrew Lichterman, Assistant Village Manager

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. and a virtual quorum was present.

Public Comment

Mr. Art Wilde asked Chairman Anderson to share the goals and focus areas of the Commission. Chairman Anderson noted there are three main focus areas currently: (1) energy conservation, (2) care of trees; and (3) recycling and landfill diversion programs such as composting. COVID-19 has affected some of the program initiatives given the limited face-to-face interaction during the pandemic. In the coming months we should be able to resume more programming. Mr. Wilde thanked Mr. Anderson for the information and understands the Commission's role to be one of advocacy and education.

Residential Solid Waste Contract

Mr. Lichterman noted the new service contract is operational as of April 1. The Village held a compost toolkit give-away event on April 3. Over 800 residents came to the event to pick up their toolkits and the Village is considering order more toolkits since there is still a lot of demand. The Village has received a lot of positive feedback. Commissioner Wolkenberg noted that approximately 1 in 6 homes have received a toolkit. Commissioner Heller inquired if we will receive a report on what percentage of households are utilizing the compost container. Mr. Lichterman noted that we will receive quarterly tonnage reports from the hauler but we may or may not be able to get it by household count. The Commission agreed that anecdotally it appears that 1 in 5 households have the compost cart at the curb on collection day.

The Commission broadly reviewed the monthly composting campaign materials and received the plan favorably. Mr. Lichterman noted that Commissioner Heller and Commissioner Krakovyak are meeting later in the week to further refine the plan and they can bring their recommendations back to the Commission at the next meeting. Mr. Lichterman confirmed there was an error in the SWALCO report related to the City of Highwood's disposal rate, as the Commission suspected at the last meeting. Chairman Anderson asked if the revised data could be shared with the Commission when available. Chairman asked when we would receive Deerfield's data. Mr. Lichterman noted the hauler reports will be

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provided to the Village quarterly. Commissioner Mertes inquired about how the data is measured. Mr. Lichterman noted that the disposal rate is based on weight. Mr. Lichterman suggested bring SWALCO to a future meeting to discuss their data. Chairman Anderson concurred with the suggested and asked that SWALCO be scheduled to attend a future meeting.

Chairman Anderson reported that he understands Shepard Middle School has interest in participating in the compost program. Mr. Lichterman noted that he will be meeting with Lakeshore Recycling Systems and the Assistant Principal at Shepard later this month so that hauler can provide them with a price proposal.

Commissioner Mertes recommended working with the restaurants on food scrap programs as well. Chairman Anderson concurred and noted that should be part of our program initiative following the residential roll-out.

Care of Trees

River Day

Commissioner Call noted that Chicago River Day is scheduled for May 8. It's a very exciting event and there is a lot of interest. She noted that there are three locations in the Village: (1) Trail Tree Park, (2) Trinity Church; and, (3) Deerfield High School. Each site about 30 volunteers. Partners also include Walgreens Corporation and the Lake County Storm Water Management Agency.

Tree Walk

Following the River Day event, she suggested that the tree subcommittee meet with the Park District and the Village Arborist to identify a park to host a fall tree walk.

50/50 Parkway Tree Program

Mr. Lichterman noted a report from the Arborist regarding the pear tree was included in the agenda packet. Commissioner Call was going to inquiry further with the Morton Arboretum and see if there was a salt tolerant species that could replace this tree on the species list.

100% Green Residential Aggregation Program

Mr. Lichterman reported that the NSEAC members received one responsive bid to the Request for Proposals. The bid is under review and will be presented to the Village Board shortly.

Arbor Day

Mr. Lichterman noted that the Village will plant trees at Deerfield High School and Kipling Elementary School on honor of Arbor Day.

Other Items for Discussion

Commissioner Wolkenberg noted that the Village Board passed a proclamation last year setting goals related to reducing the Village's greenhouse gas emissions. He wanted to encourage a discussion about what our role is related to the proclamation and how we can tie our goals to that broader initiative. He suggested adding that to a future agenda as a discussion topic. Chairman Anderson noted we can add that to the next agenda.

Public Comment

Mr. Moe Ban noted that he sent some materials related to compost education to staff to share. He also noted that Go Green Deerfield is hosting a webinar next week to help educate residents about composting.

Next meeting Date

The next meeting date will be May 20 at 7 p.m.

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Adjournment

Commissioner Heller made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mertes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m. The meeting was adjourned via a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Lichterman
Assistant Village Manager

P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, local governments and municipalities must lead the global effort to fight climate change; and

WHEREAS, climate change is already impacting people and ecosystems around the world, including the Village of Deerfield; and

WHEREAS, municipalities have an unparalleled opportunity to make changes that can transform local economies and positively impact peoples' lives both locally, and even globally; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Deerfield has a rich history of leadership, innovation and supporting sustainable practices for its residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, we support the specific and measurable goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, in all segments of our community, by 45% by 2030 and be 100% carbon neutral by 2050; and

WHEREAS, policy initiatives in key focus areas of our local economy including Energy, Transportation, Food, Waste, and Trees/ Land/ Water will help ensure we achieve our greenhouse gas reduction goals; and

WHEREAS, residents, governments, businesses, schools, parks, civic and religious groups have the opportunity to collectively work together to address the existential crisis of climate change; and

WHEREAS, it is in our own self interest to achieve our goals to ensure that we have a sustainable, livable and relevant community for future generations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRIET ROSENTHAL, Mayor of the Village of Deerfield, do hereby proclaim the Village of Deerfield's support for allocating resources to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals and urge all community stakeholders to join us in this effort.

PROCLAIMED: This 18th day of February, 2020.

HARRIET E. ROSENTHAL, Mayor