

Record of Special Meeting
Citizen Involvement Commission
Wednesday, September 5, 2018 - 7:00pm
Village Hall Room 101

I. Call to Order

Chair Troelstrup called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

II. Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Natalie Coon, Curtis Lott, Frank Pond, Sandra Novack-Gottshall, and Chair John Troelstrup.

Absent: Commissioners Emily Masalski, Conrad Terry, and Erika Washington

Also present: Village Clerk Vicki Scaman

III. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Pond and seconded by Commissioner Novack-Gottshall to approve the agenda for September 5, 2018 as presented. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Lott and seconded by Commissioner Novack-Gottshall to approve the minutes from July 11, 2018 as presented. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Applicant Interviews

Members of the Citizen Involvement Commission conducted applicant interviews:

a. David R. Erickson, Citizen Involvement Commission

David "Robbie" Erickson is a newer resident very interested in getting more involved in the community. Robbie is an HR professional passionate about creating welcoming spaces that serve all community members.

b. Brynne Hovde, Community Relations Commission

Ms. Hovde has created a business that focuses on creating safe spaces to talk about race and equity. She is interested in supporting efforts to create more (racial) equity in Oak Park.

Applicant Charles Larson, interviewing for the Community Design Citizen Advisory Committee, was unable to attend. His interview will be scheduled for a future meeting. Applicant Steve Pohlman is no longer available to interview for the Environment & Energy Commission.

VII. Reports:

a. Administrative Report/ Vacancies and Waitlist:

Clerk Scaman briefly reviewed with members of the Citizen Involvement Commission (CIC) the Vacancy and Chair Expiration Date Report. Summer appointments have been slow. The commission reviewed commission needs that are more urgent.

b. Commission Liaison reports:

Commissioner Lott reported on his experience observing the Transportation Commission. He acknowledged that the role of the Transportation Commission is complicated and shared the steps or phases the commission will take in reviewing new parking policies and technology advancements. The commission also discussed their 2019 Work Plan and new initiatives that will be part of their agenda including adding more internet capacity within the Village to handle technology upgrades.

Commissioner Pond shared that he did visit the Farmers Market commission and witnessed the planning that goes into different activities hosted by the Farmers Market.

VIII. Old Business:

a. Updates on citizen involvement recruitment plan:

Oak Park Public Library:

The Library had hosted a workshop with community leaders and members with the intention of developing a plan for providing services to Oak Park's low-income and very-low income populations to improve educational outcomes and college readiness. The Library Executive Director would like the opportunity to share the results of the workshop with the Citizen Involvement Commission and Commission Chairs at a future meeting.

Commissioner Lott and Clerk Scaman summarized meeting with the Social Services and Safety Director at the Oak Park Public Library, Rob Simmons. The intention is to develop an outreach plan for civic engagement with the Oak Park Public Library. Commissioner Lott explained his goals in working with the Library and will follow-up with them. Commissioner Terry (not present) had expressed interest to Clerk Scaman in working with Commissioner Lott on this task.

Oak Park Park District:

Clerk Scaman summarized the result of meeting with the Park District Outreach Coordinator, Cate Readling and Commissioner Masalski for the purpose of sharing recruitment efforts. Commissioner Masalski also brokered a meeting with ISBA Diversity organizer, Annemarie Kill. Annemarie shared what she learned in developing a pipeline for diversity recruitment in the field of law. It was suggested that Commissioner Washington (not present) and Commissioner Masalski (not present) follow-up on duplicating some of Annemarie's initiatives for the purpose of increasing civic engagement amongst minority populations for commissions.

Survey:

Diversity recruitment efforts would begin with a survey to collect demographic information from volunteers currently serving on Village commissions. Clerk Scaman shared highlights of the draft survey developed by Intern Camille Grant. Clerk Scaman will make minor revisions and share with the commission at a future meeting.

Commission brochure:

Commissioner Novack-Gottshall previously provided commission summaries to Clerk Scaman for a brochure. Commissioner Novack-Gottshall will continue to edit.

The possibility of conducting exit interviews with commissioners cycling off of commissions to learn more about their experience was discussed.

IX. New Business

a. Work Plan 2019 – Members of the Commission added information on the citizen involvement recruitment plan to the Citizen Involvement Commission 2019 Work Plan and clarified language under “commission support” and “volunteer recognition” as part of the work plan.

b. Applicant discussion, decisions and recommendations:

It was moved by Commissioner Pond and seconded by Commissioner Novack-Gotshall to recommend applicant David R. Erickson for appointment to the Citizen Involvement Commission and applicant Brynne Hovde to the Community Relations Commission. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Pond and seconded by Commissioner Coon to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. A voice vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned by Chair Troelstrup.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Scaman, Village Clerk