Village of Oak Park Environment & Energy Commission (EEC) – Meeting Minutes January 8, 2019

Location: Village of Oak Park Village Hall Room 124

Attendees: Nick Bridge (Chair), Stephen Morales (Commissioner), Elizabeth Judson (Commissioner), Scott Friesen (Commissioner), Townsend Bailey (Commissioner), Mindy Agnew (Staff Liaison)

Call to Order: 7:00pm – The January 8, 2019 meeting of the Village of Oak Park Environment & Energy Commission (EEC) was called to order.

The November 6, 2018 and the December 4, 2018 minutes were reviewed and discussed by the committee members.

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes as modified, Commissioner Morales seconds the motion. No Further Discussion. Motion carries.

Agenda Item: Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Bridge attended a District 200 School Board meeting and provided an update on communications to the schools about renewable energy opportunity incentives such as solar panels on roofs rather than previous consideration in years past on green roofs. He also mentioned plans with The Deep Roots organizers to explore more collaboration on pesticide aversion. The high school has an environmental club and Chairperson Bridge plans to find out any interest in combined efforts during 2019 Earth Month. Plan It Green Report Card goals discussion was added to the Agenda. Asked if the 2019 Work Plan was approved by the Board. Mindy will check on the status and report back to the Commission. Information about the 3 vacant commission slots was discussed briefly. Waiting for Clerk and Village Board decision on nominations and appointments.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Agenda Item: Staff Report - Discussion / Action Items

Mindy Agnew, Staff Liaison, gave an update on the success of the Green Awardees some of whom were small businesses. The recent idea on highlighting segments on the green small businesses was also shared with the commission. Chairperson Bridge asked about the funds received from the single-use bag fee law. Mindy indicated the final totals will come from the Finance department in the 2019 By the Numbers report to the community.

Agenda Item: Disposable Plastics/Straws report update

Commissioners Morales and Judson gave an update on the final version of the report that the Commission submitted to the Village Board of Trustees. The final version consists of a single page report summary with 8 supporting documents on facts and ordinances other cities adopted to reduce single-use plastics. He also spoke about the collaboration with the League of Women Voters to share a table at the 2019 Bite Nite event to encourage dialogue with attendees to reuce use of plastics and provide examples of compostable options for single-use.

Commissioner Bailey discussed some of the industry efforts on plastic reduction he was aware of and thought it advantageous to have industry representatives from the Chicago area to share their single-use plastic reduction efforts and their experience in public comment to the Board.

Agenda Item: Plan it Green report card information

Commissioner Bridge shared a hard copy of some the Plan it Green goals and indicators for feedback from the Commission. Discussion was initiated on the desire to ensure the goals are aligned with local and national efforts and the EEC's 2019 work plan. Commissioner Judson suggested review of 2019 Work Plan at the next meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Morales and Commissioner Bailey seconds the motion. No further discussion. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.