

**Village of Oak Park  
Environment & Energy Commission (EEC) – Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2019**

**Location:** Village of Oak Park Village Hall Room 124

**Attendees:** Laura Derks (Chair), Stephen Morales (Commissioner), Scott Friesen (Commissioner), Mark Goldberg (Commissioner), Ravi Parakkat (Commissioner), Lisa Boone (Commissioner), Cara Pavlicek (Village Manager), Tammie Grossman (Director, Development Customer Services), Mindy Agnew (Staff Liaison), Leslie Hernandez (GRCorps Fellow)

**Call to Order:** 7:03pm – The December 9, 2019 meeting of the Village of Oak Park Environment & Energy Commission (EEC) was called to order.

- The November 5, 2019 minutes were reviewed and discussed by the committee members. Minor revisions were made.

**MOTION:** A motion to approve the minutes by Commissioner Friesen was made, Commissioner Morales seconds the motion. Commissioner Dirks made a correction to the last sentence of the Chairperson’s report regarding the discussion with District 200 not being solely about renewable energy. No Further Discussion. Motion carries.

**Agenda Item: Chairperson’s Report**

Ravi Parakkat, the newest Commissioner introduced himself to the Commission.

Chairperson Dirks spoke about meeting with Commissioner Parakkat earlier in the week and about the Green Awards event on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. She is looking forward to looking at the budget in more detail on page 224. Chairperson Derks asked if the work plan had been approved yet. Mindy responded that it’s still out there and the Commission will be notified when it makes it on a Village Board meeting agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Tom Basset-Dilley, a resident of the 1000 block of Highland spoke about his sustainable architectural firm in Oak Park, and a conference he attended recently in D.C. on de-carbonization. Mr. Basset spoke of his involvement in sustainability and the future of de-carbonization as well as looking at the Commission’s work plan and wondered if de-carbonization could be added.

Amy Rosenthal, an Oak Park resident, spoke about being a part of a team of scientists dedicated to conservation. Ms. Rosenthal spoke about living in Washington D.C. in 2008 and 2009 and her involvement in the conservation community there and what they did. She is working and meeting with DTOP and other community leaders Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> to start planning the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth Day with the Plan it Green and Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation.

**Agenda Item: Staff Report**

Cara Pavlicek, Village Manager, introduced herself to the Commission and provided information on her background and her role in the municipality. She discussed the government of the Village of Oak Park, home rule and briefly spoke about the Environment and Energy Commission ordinance the Village Code under Chapter 2 Article 21. Cara went on to explain the 2020 adopted budget and what is comprised of the Sustainability Fund.

Cara spoke about the staff work plan and the Advisory Boards and Commissions work plans. She also spoke about the five year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and what it entails. The LED project is an example of a project included on the CIP plan funded by the sustainability fund.

Cara spoke about the procedural manual for Village Boards and Commissions which can be found on the Village website for reference. She also showed the Commission how to find the protocols for the Village Board on the Village’s website

under the Village Board page and how some of the other Commissions are based on state laws. Cara also discussed how items get on the agenda for Village Board meetings.

## **Discussion / Action Items**

### **Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Guidelines information presentation and Q&A**

Tammie Grossman, Director of Development Customer Services, introduced herself to the Commission and provided information on the divisions of her department, the programs she manages, and her background with the Village. She spoke about the income eligible energy efficiency guidelines for single family development programs and how the loan program was redeveloped about ten years ago. The loan is a zero interest loan that is payable back when the house sells. She also spoke about various grant programs available to Village residents with low income.

Commissioner Morales asked if it would be possible to pull the old reports to compare to recent information.

Chair Derks asked about having a conversation with restaurant owners about switching over to single use plastics. Mindy responded that she would need an updated recommendation report for additional background information in order to get something on the Village Board study session agenda.

Chair Derks would like to postpone the rest of the discussion/agenda items to next month's meeting.

### **Building Benchmarking Memo Discussion**

### **Single-use Plastics study session preparation**

### **Earth Day 2020, 50th anniversary**

**MOTION:** A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Friesen and Commissioner Morales seconds the motion. No further discussion. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:55p.m.