

Village of Oak Park Environment & Energy Commission (EEC) – Meeting Minutes **APRIL 2**

Location: Village of Oak Park Village Hall - Room 124

Attendees: Nick Bridge (Chair), Stephen Morales (Commissioner), Elizabeth Judson (Commissioner), Laura Derks (Commissioner), Colin Taylor (Commissioner) Mark Goldberg (Commissioner) Mindy Agnew (Staff Liaison)

- Call to Order: 7:00pm – Nick Bridge (Chair) called the APRIL 2 meeting of the Village of Oak Park Environment & Energy Commission (EEC) to order.
- Nick Bridge (Chair) invited comment and review of the meeting minutes of March 5th. Seeing no objection the Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve the minutes. Minutes of 3/18 meeting were also approved. Second by Commissioner Judson.

Village Clerk Vicki Scaman presented a report summarizing the State of Illinois Open Meetings Act

- Clerk is responsible for Public Notice on lobby kiosk. Staff ensures it's also posted on-line.
- Each meeting requires 48 hour notice by law.
- Each meeting requires an official record.
- A conversation involving three or more members constitutes a meeting under the law.
- Each committee and its members must be approved by the Village Board.
- E-mail content items for discussion at the next meeting should be included in the "agenda packet" prior to the meeting.
- Public comment at meetings is limited to three minutes and is intended as a listening opportunity for the committee. Conversation is not invited unless included on the agenda.

Chair Report

- The chair met with Shannon Williams of Downtown Oak Park, and she believes many Oak Park restaurants may support reduction in the use of plastic straws.
- The chair intends to meet with Liz Holt, Executive Director of the Oak Park and River Forest Chamber of Commerce for additional feedback.
- He also reminded the commission that staff from the Shedd Aquarium have offered to help with the plastic straw reduction effort.
- 7 Generations Ahead is holding a "lunch and learn" regarding Zero Carbon Building Emissions on April 11 at 12:00 noon. There is also a "Climate Change" lecture at the library on April 23. In addition, there is a forum on plastics at Triton on April 23.

STAFF REPORT:

- Staff reminded the commission to review the Community Choice Aggregation fund recommendations from the February 11 meeting Village Board Meeting that includes the commission's recommendations such as the approval of use of the funds for LED lighting in

the Village of Oak Park. The item was tabled at the meeting by the Board and is being scheduled for future discussion.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- The EEC discussed their talking points and timeline ideas on the plastics reduction recommendation. A draft budget was also discussed as part of the next agenda item opportunity for gaining approval by the Board. Commissioner Morales had a meeting with staff at the Shedd Aquarium, and they support the idea of a “Plastic Free” seasonal campaign. They suggested including a prize offering of applicable items to incentivize action. Discussion ensued about researching and reaching out to other communities and institutions that have already done something like this in order to shorten the process. Commissioners decided to divide up duties and tasks to move forward with additional action and research on the subject. Commissioner Taylor offered to follow up with the Shedd Aquarium educational staff. Commissioner Derks volunteered to pursue plastics reduction for the schools.
- Commissioners Judson and Morales will continue moving forward on plastic reduction recommendation initiatives they started.
- Commissioner Goldberg volunteered to coordinate sending out a “Sign-up Genius” for the upcoming EEC events that include Earth Fest, two opening Go Green weekends of the Farmers Market and A Day In Our Village.
- Mindy Agnew suggested also including sign-up and recruiting for Zero Waste volunteer duties. It’s a good tactile exposure to the public on awareness for the plastic waste reduction.

MOTION: A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Morales and Commissioner Goldberg seconds the motion. No further discussion. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.