

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION WORKSHOP

MINUTES

September 7th, 2021

Board or Commission: Environmental
Meeting: Special
Quorum: Yes

Date: September 7, 2021
Called to Order: 7:03 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:30 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Christie Truitt	Chairman	Present
Jeff D. Abeln	Commissioner	Present
Jacquelyn Casazza	Commissioner	Present
Karin Daly	Commissioner	Present
Barbara Kwiatkowski	Commissioner	Present
David Meehan	Commissioner	Absent
Steve Swanson	Commissioner	Present
Jennifer E. Umlauf	Commissioner	Present

Also Present:

Elijah Bebora	Staff Intern	
Kelly Christiansen	Trustee Liaison	
PUBLIC		

I. CALL TO ORDER

The September 7, 2021 Environmental Commission Workshop was called to order by Chairman Truitt at 7:03 PM at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 306.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

III. DISCUSSION TOPICS – Chairman Truitt states the importance of tonight's meeting is to review our budget needs for next year as well as review the Comprehensive Plan and our core initiatives.

- A. *Review current EC initiatives and alignment to GRC2* – Chairman Truitt states there is an ongoing alignment from our 2018 initiatives to now. We decided on 4 focus areas in 2018.

Arts and Outreach
Transportation, Health, Wellbeing
Recycling
Sustainable Landscaping

Chairman Truitt states in July 2021 we came up with the following initiatives.

Sustainable Communities – Arts Initiatives
Sustainable Communities – Mobility
Economic Development – Green Business
Waste – Recycling and Composting
Water – Water Treatment and Stormwater Management
Land Use – Greenscaping/GE National Park
Land Use – Stewardship of Trees

Chairman Truitt asks the EC if we still want to do all the items on the July 2021 list (see handout). Commissioner Abeln suggests moving the Water Treatment initiative to 2024-2026. Chairman Truitt adds if we could reduce the amount of water that is processed that may help. Perhaps we can promote more rain gardens. Commissioner Swanson states we can also reach out to Downers Grove to see what they did and the results they got from the rain gardens. The EC agrees to move the Water Treatment initiative to 2024-2026 and keep the balance of the initiatives as stated (see attached handout).

B. *Discuss integration with Comprehensive Plan and Streetscape Plan* – No Discussion

C. *Collaborate on EC budget proposal to Village Trustees* – Chairman Truitt states we have had a planned budget of \$5,000. If we would like to ask for additional funds we can discuss that tonight and can vote on our requested budget at our September 21st meeting. Commissioner Casazza asks if we could request more than the \$5,000. Trustee Christiansen adds we are always looking for ways to cut our budget. The EC will need to ask for what they want and justify it.

The EC discusses adding the following items to the budget request.

1. Residential Composting Kits – Commissioner Casazza states the cost is about \$10 a kit and it would be great to earmark 100 kits. This could be publicized through the Village, Realtors, and Newcomers Club.
2. Recognition Business Program – Commissioner Kwiatkowski suggests giving a financial grant as reward for small businesses that are recognized. Trustee Christiansen states you would need to set up criteria and find out who would do the nominations, reviews, and justification for the dollar amount.
3. Native Plant Sale (education also provided)
4. Oak trees and caring for them
5. Signage in Parks – Chairman Truitt states we would like to promote the GE brand and our parks with the use of signage.

Chairman Truitt thanks the EC for their collaboration tonight.

IV. Next Meeting & Adjournment

- A. The next EC meeting will be held on September 21, 2021.
- B. Commissioner Kwiatkowski motions and Commissioner Casazza seconds the motion to adjourn the workshop. The workshop was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Staff Liaison, Rodman