

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 1, 2023
MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
VILLAGE HALL 6101 CAPULINA, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053

- 1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/ Roll Call:** Pursuant to proper notice in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the regular meeting of the Environment and Natural Resources Commission was called to order at 6:00 PM by Teresa Hoffman Liston called the role.

Commissioners Present: Kim Moldofsky, Christine Corelli, Jan Pietron, Georgie Brunner, Andrew Hoffman, Sarah Tag

Village Staff Present: Teresa Hoffman Liston, Kevin Lochner, Ralph Czerwinski, Michael Lukich

Guests: Janice Cha, Michael Shiba & Matthew Shiba

- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Chairperson Brunner proceeded to seek approval of the June 6, 2023 minutes. Commissioner Hoffman moved to approve the minutes of June 6, 2023 Commissioner Moldofsky seconded the motion.

Minutes approved by unanimous voice vote.

- 3. Staff Reports:** Mike Lukich presented the following report:

Water Strategies:

- Replacement of Watermain – Working on Forest Preserve Permitting
 - 1600ft Albert Avenue
 - 2,300 ft Main Street
- Oakton Street Sanitary Sewer Installation – Austin to Lehigh – reviewing plans
- Annual Sewer Lining program – main portion on hold due to emergency lining being done on Lehigh and Frontage Rd.
- Annual Leak Survey is ongoing – so far 21 leaks have been found underground
- Northwest Water Commission Water Supply Main Project – seeking funding for emergency supply.
 - Main street project
 - Albert Street

Air Strategies:

- As of May 30, 2023 189 homes have had solar panels installed.
- Electric Car Charging Stations at Sawmill Station 4 installed with more to come.
- Oakton Street Pedestrian Bike Path - Construction to start Spring 2023. Working is depending on dryer weather.
- Pace new rapid transit service – Pulse on Dempster St & Austin Av. In front of Sawmill Station apartments on Dempster under construction now. 2 Relocations of Pace Shelters completed

Energy Strategies:

- North Pumping Station LED Conversion – completed June 25, 2023

- South Pumping Station – 2024

Land Strategies:

- Tree City Certificate received
- Tree trimming continues
- Updating parkway tree inventory.
- Editing Tree Canopy Map

Waste Strategies:

- Groot Annual Yard Waste/Food Scrap Subscription Program is ongoing. We have eleven homes with 95 Gallon totes and twenty-three homes with 65-gallon totes.
- Collective Resource Food Scrap Program – 55 MG homes are registered.
- Electronics Recycling Event was very successful, 565 cars participated.
- Community Clean-up Event – 51 participants

4. Programs and Events

a. Weekly E-News Articles – Terry Liston asked Commissioners to continue submitting articles.

b. Sustainability Expo, Report by Terry Liston

- September 9, 2023
- Volunteers needed
- Expo Website is in the works to update all the vendors and Recycling Fest collectors.
- The Expo Raffle is looking for prizes to add to its giveaway.
- Kid's Activity area to feature a 'Tinkering Table' where we will provide various recyclable items for kids to create art with.
- Expo Marketing: Postcard, banners, websites,
- Sustainability Pledge, Commissioner Tag would like the pledge to have more details and action items for people to take.
Discussion ensued between the commission members to create a fun and interactive way to take the pledge.
- Commissioner Tag wanted to inquire on how the food vendors at the Expo will serve their items in a sustainable way.
- Commissioner Corelli talked about the exhibitors who she's gotten to sign up including Windy City Tree and CDC.
- Some Commission members had some hesitation with certain exhibitors and their sustainability efforts. Staff will contact them to clarify if they fit the expo goals.

c. Pumpkin Smash

- Date confirmed for November 4, 2023 9am-12 @ Harrer Park

d. Benchmarking Municipal Buildings

- PW Director Mike Lukich has begun working on this project with ComEd and other agencies to come up with a plan.

5. Other Business:

- a. Chairperson Hoffman talked about the Solar Tour hosted by the Illinois Solar Association and wanted to ask if Morton Grove would like to be involved.
- b. Janice Cha, guest speaker came to the meeting to make an appeal to have creating a Native Garden a higher priority in the Village. She wanted to bring up a case where her neighbor who is an avid native gardener was written citation for having an unkept yard for their native garden.

Terry Liston commented on this particular matter stating the Village is working with the homeowners to resolve this issue. The Village wants to support individuals who have active concerns for the environment and native gardening and is looking at other communities to see what their ordinances say regarding this.

Trustee Shiba suggested creating a program where the Village provides some type of certification for resident with native gardens to avoid unnecessary citations or violations.

Commissioner Tag wanted to understand what the parameters are for native gardens

Adjournment:

Hearing no further comments, Commissioner Pietron moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Tag.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm by unanimous voice vote.

Minutes By: Saba Koya