



## VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday Dec 12, 2017 – 7:00 PM

A regular meeting of the River Forest Sustainability Commission was held on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. The meeting was conducted in the Community Room at the River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Ave, River Forest.

### **Roll Call and Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Present at the meeting were: Commissioner Cheng  
Commissioner Simon, Commissioner Chen, Commissioner Moller, Commissioner Brennan.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Adoption of Meeting Minutes from 10/10/17**

Commissioner Brennan moved to approve minutes. Commissioner Moller seconded. Sustainability Commission meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

### **General**

#### **Commissioner Simon Report**

6th Annual Breakfast, summary was provided last night at village board of trustees meeting. Our application for NREL training was denied – will work with NREL and John on reasons why so we can learn and move forward.

#### **Commissioner Chen Report**

Update on Leadership Program, brought up idea to have friendly competition w/ OP on curbside composting.

#### **Commissioner Moller Report**

- Kick off for Mayors event at field museum - 300 planned, 1000 showed. Great representation.
- PlantIt green breakfast - did snapshot on lemonade stand waste diversion.
- Climate mayors breakfast - a lot of solutions and answers versus problems.
- Leadership lab holiday party
- PlanItGreen monthly meeting - a lot of talk about institutional leaders forum and one earth film festival. Secured space for Dominican, Roosevelt for movies. Will need to get word out so they are well attended.

### **Commissioner Brennan Report**

- Women in green event downtown w/ Mayor Adduci. Morning before signing charter.
- Climate mayors breakfast on wed morning w/ Julie. Jim Angel - climatologist was great. He would speak to us - can go through deck he did with mayors, VBOT too.
- Village board meeting last night.

### **Commissioner Chen Report**

- PlanItGreen breakfast.
- Her own board conflicts with monthly VBOT meeting so she won't be able to attend.

### **Report on Approval of Beekeeping Ordinance - Village Board of Trustees**

- Village board unanimously passed ordinance in Nov meeting.
- John: meeting with building department. Taking forms that were drafted and turning them into forms that match existing forms. Internal process is being developed. Will be rolled out first of year - will be ready for spring permitting process.

### **New Village Website**

Conversation on new website and loading Sustainability Commission information. All requests and information will funnel through Beth. Everything to John after.

### **Status of Chicken Ordinance**

- John: Will be different because its not a reaction to a problem - can build on bee ordinance as foundation.
- Right now illegal to have poultry in village code.
- No known chickens in village.
- We have been asked by VBOT to provide recommendation on whether or not.
- Katie to check with Tom to clarify what, if anything, VBOT wants us to do.

### **Agenda Item #6 - Recycling extravaganza**

- Julie: e-waste information has been sent out. No feedback from John.
- It's on.
- Katie: Would park district put this in their next broacher, Julie thinks so. Send Julie any ideas - will be in commuter lot.
- Billing it as RF earth day initiative - a lot going on that day. Des Plaines river cleanup, compost cleanup.
- 4/21/18 - Katie has asked commissioners to reserve spot.

### **Agenda Item #7 - Sustainability commission ecosystem and open space goals**

- See attachment.
- Draft version of our goals to Tom yesterday.
- This is last goal piece - we will then put together our goals and present to VBOT.
- Katie presented plan on behalf of Mary.

### **Agenda Item #8 Discussion on goals**

- Beth: Comment about saying this is all 2018 goals when a lot of them are going to take longer.
- Eric: concerned that this is ambitious, would prefer to under promise and over deliver
- Julie: offered that we can spin this as a work plan.
- Will look at Julie's work and talk about it.
- Discussion
- Katie: next VBOT meeting present goals. 1/22
- John will ask Eric P if we can get on agenda.

### **Agenda Item #9 – RF Participation in Climate Charter**

- Attached to agenda packet.
- Last page is what we signed on for
- ES: do we want to use this as framework for goals
- Julie: PlanItGreen and Greenest Region is really our framework. Just need to connect this.
- Julie: Also own our own numbers and start tracking them. Recording specific metrics.
- Katie: Edith M (Mayors Caucus) sent email out afterwards on how they can help with this commitment.
- Katie - work with Edith, Julie has some of this done, - Eric S work.

### **Agenda Item #10 - Turf Research**

- Update from Mary Susan. Compiled a paper - started with a statement. Added concerns. Concerns with chemicals leeching from turf. Health concerns for users of turf. Would like help looking through it and preparing to present to park district.
- MS: Environmental health, clean up,
- Katie: When is park district making a decision on this. Concerned that we shouldn't present this without really looking at this and talking about it.
- ES: If we can neutralize the language on this and not take any point of view then this would be safe to present.
- Katie: Needs to be pointed out that is made from recycled product.
- Beth: Surprised that if this is a done deal that its not being discussed. Brought up fact this was an issue in Oak Park.
- Discussion
- Mary Susan - will send this to everyone on commission. Eric S to read it over and help.
- Will get consensus via email from commission.
- Park District meeting on Monday is goal.

### **Agenda Item #14**

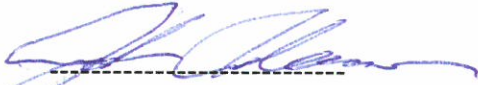
Jan 9th is next meeting

### **Agenda Item #15**

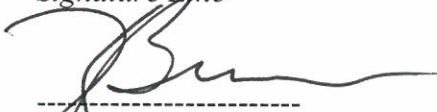
Katie move we adjourned, Julie seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Signature Line*

  
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John Anderson, Secretary

*Signature Line*

  
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Kathleen Brennan, Chairman  
Sustainability Commission

Date: 2/13/18