



**Conservation Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**February 4, 2021 7:00 P.M.**  
Via teleconference

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members present: Joshua Liberatore, Henry Tomasiewicz, Bella Peaslee, Chuck Hagner, Pat Wilson, Elisabeth Witt, Meenal Atre, Linda Frank, Caroline Kuebler, Maggie Pipek, Donna Pollock and Matt McGovern

Others Present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart, Trustee Wesley Warren, Trustee Davida Amenta, Linda Laarman, Judy Winn

Not present: Kendra Carey

**2. Approve January 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Pollock moved to approve the January 7, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tomasiewicz. Vote 12-0 to approve the minutes.

**3. Discuss Citizen Concerns**

Ms. Pollock brought up the TIF Policy discussion. She wanted to make sure the sustainability green development practices worked on by the Committee to be incorporated in the TIF Policy. Mr. Burkart mentioned to the Committee ways they can voice their concerns to the CDA and the Village Board. Village Manager Ewald also plans to incorporate this discussion at the CDA level for their next meeting. Mr. Burkart will share the document with the Committee and setup a meeting with Mr. Hammond and Ms. Ewald to discuss further.

**4. Discuss and Consider Recommendation on Dog Waste Station Proposal**

Ms. Judy Winn and Ms. Linda Laarman were in attendance to present their proposal to the Committee on dog waste stations. The Committee discussed some of the problematic areas around the Village. The Committee also discussed some of the impacts if we used compostable bags versus plastic bags. There was one idea of using a QR code to signify the volunteers that the station is out of bags. Other ideas shared consisted of placing stations near other receptacles already present in the Village. Mr. Liberatore moves for support of the dog waste station proposal. Mr. Tomasiewicz seconds the motion. Motion approved by a 10-2 vote with Ms. Atre and Mr. Wilson opposing.

**5. Staff Liaison Updates**

Mr. Burkart provided an update on the Shorewood Short video series. He showed one of the three films to the Conservation Committee. Ms. Peaslee was one of two high school students who produced the films. The films will be shown in future Village communications. The Sustainability Scorecard will be completed for the March meeting. Village staff submitted the EIGP grant. Marek Landscaping is looking for volunteers to help maintain some of the vegetative improvements and remove the invasives during the last weekend in February. It is best to do some of these activities while the ground is still

frozen. Lastly, the Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention is virtual, which could have some water resource training opportunities and serve as interest to Committee members. Those interested should contact Mr. Burkart.

**6. Discuss 2020 Annual Report and 2021 Future Initiatives**

Mr. Liberatore asked for some suggestions to highlight the Committee's accomplishments as well as some upcoming initiatives. The following are some of the accomplishments for the past year:

- Initiate the Sustainability Dashboard
- Coordinated the annual Environmental Film Festival
- Expanded Organics program to near 300 participants
- Completed a full year of the Sustainability Scorecard
- Discussion with the School District on plastic use and food waste
- Input provided to the CDA strategic survey, the Housing Study, and the Transportation analysis
- Install LED lighting in Village Center from the energy audit
- Conducted overview of North Shore and other Milwaukee County municipality waste collection programs
- Apply for Bird City Wisconsin recognition
- Assist with the North Shore Solar Now Steering Committee efforts

Some of the upcoming new initiatives are:

- Working on a resolution for the Village Board to pass on climate action
- Eliminate the Conditional Use Permit for solar installation
- Discuss adding electric vehicles to the Village fleet
- Taking the lead with Fin and Feather Festival – revamping based on feedback
- Modifying the Environmental Film Festival to go virtual

**7. Discuss 2021 Environmental Film Festival**

A trial run on February 17 with the first film in an attempt to go virtual. If the film goes well, then the Committee will promote the remaining two films at that time. From the Waste Up will be the film to be shown in February. The third Wednesday of each month will be when the films will be shown. Symphony of the Soil and Hometown Habitat are possibly the other two films. Mr. Burkart asked to upgrade the Vimeo account so we can screen to unlimited users. Mr. Tomasiewicz moved to approve the \$75 for the account upgrade. Ms. Frank seconded the motion. Motion approved by a 12-0 vote.

**8. Discuss DPW Downspout Disconnection Program**

Mr. Liberatore let the Committee know that MMSD is mandating all eligible downspouts in the combined sewer area be disconnected from the sewer line by January 1, 2025. DPW would like a dedicated liaison from the Committee to be involved with these efforts. Mr. Tomasiewicz expressed interest in serving as the liaison.

**9. Discuss Milwaukee City-County Task Force on Climate & Economic Equity**

Ms. Frank asks all Committee members to work with her in a subgroup to move forward with a resolution. The Milwaukee task force is moving ahead with initiatives and recommendations related to climate and economic equity. They are also tasked with finding funding sources to pay for these initiatives. The task force identified a goal of a 45% reduction in greenhouse gases by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050. These efforts should evaluate public energies and incorporating more sustainable practices as well as transportation. Shorewood should review the Milwaukee resolutions as the model and modify it to reflect actions for the Shorewood community. Wauwatosa passed a similar resolution. Community members drafted a resolution that is being reviewed and similar discussions are occurring in Whitefish Bay and Glendale. Ms. Pipek expressed interest. More members will consider the commitment as this will be discussed on a future agenda.

**10. Subcommittee Reports**

No reports.

**11. Upcoming Events, Member Topics & Suggestions**

No other events or topics.

**12. Adjournment**

Ms. Pollock moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Tomasiewicz. Vote 12-0 to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart  
Assistant Village Manager