



Conservation Committee

Minutes

May 2, 2019 7:00 P.M.

Village Hall Committee Room

3930 N. Murray Avenue, Shorewood, WI 53211

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Roland Schroeder, Sue Murphy Yerkes, Maggie Pipek, Chase Kelm, Linda Frank, Caroline Kuebler, Donna Pollock (arrived at 7:04 p.m.), Henry Tomasiewicz (arrived at 7:04 p.m.), Meenal Atre, Matt McGovern, Elisabeth Witt, Abigail Widell, and Greta Maierle

Others Present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart

Not present: Joshua Liberatore

2. Approve April 4, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Kuebler moved to approve the April 4, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Frank. Vote 10-0 to approve the minutes.

3. Staff Liaison Update

The community survey link is now live. Residents are able to respond to the survey between now and mid-May. The question related to a refuse utility is part of the survey. Currently there have been over 530 responses. The lighting has been retrofitted at the SIS tennis courts. It now has the button installed to turn the lighting on and off so that the lighting is not automatically on when the court is not being utilized. Lastly, the Milwaukee County Library will be switching its paper based on a request from Ms. Atre. The paper will be a more environmentally-friendly (phenyl free) product.

4. Discuss Citizen Concerns

No citizen concerns.

5. Update on Solar Now/Village energy efficiency initiatives

Mr. Kelm mentioned a representative from WE energies has been in communications with him and they are attempting to schedule a time to have them present at a future meeting. Mr. McGovern provided a quick update on how the Village is on the list for WE Energies to evaluate our public buildings for solar installations. Mr. McGovern also gave a summary on the energy audit in the Village Center and Village Hall. Lastly, he informed the Committee a solar grant will be coming out in mid-May and he'll be encouraging the Village to apply. Ms. Witt provided a draft letter to the Committee encouraging the School District to consider incorporating solar installation and other energy efficiency improvements for their public buildings. The letter will be included in the agenda packet for the Committee's June meeting. The Committee asked Mr. Burkart to reach out to Mr. Griepentrog to provide an update on the revisions for the neighborhood improvement loan program.

6. Discuss Proposed Resident Survey on Pesticide/Fertilizer Use

Mr. Tomasiewicz presented the proposed survey on pesticide and fertilizer use. Surveys would be provided during the Shorewood Splash and a larger rollout in the Fall. Results from the survey will help identify next steps and what a program may look like to educate residents about pesticide and fertilizer use. Committee members expressed the idea of adding salt usage questions to the survey. Mr. Tomasiewicz shared other ideas of ways to promote the survey and further education of best practices such as collaborating with Bring Your Bag Shorewood and putting together a frequent survey quizzing residents on various practices.

7. Reflect on 2019 Film Festival

Ms. Murphy Yerkes led a reflection about this year's film festival. The Committee was happy with the turnout. The speakers and collaborating with other groups certainly helped improve attendance and the quality of the film festivals. There was discussion about inviting the high school classes with an environmental focus, having students coordinate a film showing, or hosting a film at the high school.

8. Finalize and Consider Annual Report and Upcoming Priorities

Mr. Burkart shared the current draft of the annual report and initiatives with the Committee. There were no additional changes to the report. Committee members were asked to submit specific implementation steps to Mr. Burkart by the end of May before it is finalized and sent to the Village Board.

9. Discuss 2019 Q1 Sustainability Scorecard

Mr. Burkart shared the sustainability scorecard. The Committee was unclear why water usage in public buildings could not be reported. Mr. Burkart will follow up on this with the Committee. There was a question about metric for salt usage because the Committee believed it would be much higher than what is being reported. The unit for organics collection should be changed to pounds from tons.

10. Subcommittee Reports

No reports.

11. Upcoming Events, Member Topics & Suggestions

The Garlic Mustard Weedout is May 11. There is an Atwater Beach clean-up on May 5. Estabrook Park is having a weedout event on May 4.

12. Adjournment

Mr. Tomasiewicz moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Murphy Yerkes. Vote 12-0 to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart
Assistant Village Manager