



# Conservation Committee

## Minutes

January 6, 2022 7:00 P.M.

Via Teleconference

### 1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Members present: Joshua Liberatore, Maggie Pipek, Erin Povak, Caroline Kuebler, Bella Peaslee, Henry Tomaszewicz, Chuck Hagner, Donna Pollock, Meenal Atre (joined at 7:06 p.m.), Elisabeth Witt (joined at 7:09 p.m.)

Others Present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart

Not present: Matt McGovern, Linda Frank, Natalia Stein

### 2. Consider Approval of December 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Tomaszewicz moved to approve the December 2, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Povak. Vote 8-0 to approve the minutes.

### 3. Discuss Citizen Concerns

No citizen concerns.

### 4. Staff Liaison Updates

Mr. Burkart reported Compost Crusader reached out to Village officials stating they will need to increase fees on original participant users. They will be sending a proposed cost sheet for staff to review. Mr. Liberatore inquired if there still will be different rates for those customers who have carts owned by the Village. All Conservation Committee members are invited to the hybrid form-based coding meeting next week. Mr. Burkart will follow up with Mr. Griepentrog to see if this is only public forum and if it will be recorded. Ms. Peaslee completed her next round of How to be a Good Neighbor videos. Mr. Burkart announced this will be his last Conservation Committee meeting and that he appreciated everyone's work and service.

### 5. Discuss and Consider Committee Annual Report

Mr. Liberatore summarized the draft committee report. Mr. Liberatore shared that Ms. Frank would like recycling education to be an initiative for 2022. Mr. Burkart added the fact that members would like to further investigate the recycling recovery rate and find ways to improve that metric. Ms. Pollock mentioned a desire to further connect with the schools to implement some of the initiatives discussed. Mr. Burkart volunteered to reach out to Superintendent Sternke and invite her to a future committee meeting. The committee discussed what the focus of recycling education should be and looks for additional clarification from Public Works Director Butschlick. Ms. Witt also suggested coordinating another invasive species and buckthorn removal this winter, which Mr. Liberatore will follow up with Ms. Butschlick to see if DPW is planning another event. Ms. Pollock moved to approve the annual committee report incorporating the changes the committee discussed. Mr. Liberatore seconded the motion. Motion approved by a 10-0 vote.

**6. Discuss Salt Use, Stormwater Permit Compliance, and related Projects**

Ms. Povak summarized some services that Sweetwater provides related to stormwater permitting. Some of the initiatives may help the Village with MS4 permit compliance, which includes measurables related to stormwater education and the number of residents reading through the materials and possibly initiatives related to pesticides and fertilizers. Mr. Liberatore mentioned completing walking audits for pesticide use and additional pesticide education could be performed in the spring, which can lead to other impactful initiatives to improve awareness of the harmful effects of pesticides. There was discussion about developing baseline questions to add to the community survey next year. Ms. Povak suggested to add additional language to the Shorewood Waters Project website.

**7. Update on Film Screening and Spring Event Planning**

Ms. Kuebler provided an update to the committee on the film screening event, which will take place February 11. Based on the current trends of the Omicron variant, the committee discussed hosting a film screening at a later date. The committee suggested a date in March, April and May. Ms. Kuebler will follow up with the Recreation Department on rescheduling the event.

Mr. Tomaszewicz and Mr. Liberatore asked the committee if they want to host the spring event in May. The event will be in Estabrook Park near a pollinator garden being put in the park space. Some activities could be done involved with the pollinator garden jointly with the Friends of Estabrook Park. The event can now also take place during International Migratory Bird Day. Mr. Burkart will prepare the International Migratory Bird Day proclamation for the Village Board. Mr. Tomaszewicz is also working on the Bird City application. There was discussion of including MMSD about a potential plant sale or other activities or resources they could offer for the event. The committee supports the idea and is tentatively planning for May 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mr. Burkart suggested reaching out to Milwaukee County Parks to solidify the event.

**8. Subcommittee Reports**

No reports.

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

No events or topics.

**10. Adjournment**

Mr. Tomaszewicz moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Pollock. Vote 10-0 to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart  
Assistant Village Manager