



Conservation Committee Minutes

September 5, 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 7:01 p.m.

Members present: Joshua Liberatore, Chase Kelm, Henry Tomaszewicz, Meenal Atre, Travis Blomberg, Pat Wilson, Donna Pollock (arrived at 7:03 p.m.), Linda Frank (arrived at 7:14 p.m.) Elisabeth Witt (arrived at 7:39 p.m.), and Caroline Kuebler

Others Present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart

Not present: Matt McGovern, Maggie Pipek,

2. Approve August 1, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Blomberg moved to approve the August 1, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tomaszewicz. Vote 7-0 approve the minutes.

3. Staff Liaison Update

Mr. Burkart updated the Committee on the organics collection program. Plastic bags for the organics collection program will no longer be accepted. Blue Ribbon, who processes the material, and other agencies has concerns about the PFAS related to the plastic bags. The Committee thought it would be worthwhile to do a manager's memo article on the issue. Mr. Burkart also mentioned Village staff is working with North Shore Health Department on gathering data and proposing an ordinance for smoke free beach and parks. This will more than likely be taken to the Village Board and/or a committee for consideration in early 2020. Village Manager wanted to concentrate on this effort rather than the installation of cigarette receptacles. Mr. Burkart updated the Committee that the Village is unlikely to receive a recycling rebate due to the new Waste Management contract. The Committee still questions the equation for the recovery rate. Mr. Burkart will follow up on this. Ms. Kuebler provided an update related to the Queensway Cleaners demolition plan and process for mediating the waste from the site. Lastly, Mr. Burkart updated the Committee about the beach cleaning equipment and procedures with the Department of Public Works. The Committee may send grant ideas to share with DPW to consider for upcoming grants.

4. Discuss Citizen Concerns

There was discussion about the public sidewalk repair – health concerns of workers breathing in dust without a mask and condition of trees when tearing and replacing the sidewalk or parking a vehicle without damaging overhanging branches. There was also mention about the Committee making recommendations to the Library about facility upgrades with the donated funds received. Lastly, the Committee will be submitting a manager's memo article about left over gas in the lawn mower prior to the winter season.

5. Discuss Fish and Feather Festival

The river clean-up will be in the morning from 9-11 a.m. Volunteers should meet in the parking lot in Estabrook Park. Mr. Tomasiewicz will post on the Milwaukee Festival. Bring Your Bag Shorewood will be present for the event. Members should look for an email from Mr. Burkart and Mr. Liberatore to sign up. Ms. Atre will also reach out to TerraCycle Plastic Free MKE to see if they would like to attend.

6. Subcommittee Reports

Ms. Kuebler showed Committee members the flyer with the QR code for the pesticide survey. Community members can take the survey with their phones and the QR code at the Festival. Ms. Frank put together a new draft of the proposal for a refuse utility. Phase one of implementation would be 2022 or 2023 when the refuse operations would move from property taxes to a utility bill. Phase two of implementation would occur in 2024 or 2025 which incorporates some operation changes to promote recycling and reuse practices. Mr. Blomberg volunteered to review the draft and Mr. Liberatore will work with Ms. Frank on some edits with the draft. Once the draft is completed, Mr. Burkart will setup a meeting with Village officials to review. Ms. Witt summarized the presentation and words of encouragement for solar technology to the School Board. Mr. Liberatore will send out another email to School officials to assure these concepts are being incorporated with the facility upgrades.

7. Upcoming Events, Member Topics & Suggestions

Ms. Ariana Hones from the Wisconsin Conservation Voters (SE Organizer for the State) was in attendance to summarize their efforts. Shorewood Waters Project has a pollinator session on September 18.

8. Adjournment

Ms. Pollock moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Tomasiewicz. Vote 10-0 to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart
Assistant Village Manager