

**VILLAGE OF LAKE BLUFF
SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING**

June 29, 2016

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The Village of Lake Bluff Sustainability and Community Enhancement Ad Hoc Committee (SEC) met on June 29, 2016 in the Village Hall Board Room (40 E. Center Avenue) at 7:00 p.m. and the following members were present:

2. Roll Call

Present: Marina Carney Puryear, Co-Chair
Brian Rener, Co-Chair
Jill Danly
Anne Sorensen
Alexandra Walinskas

Absent: Liz Leutwiler
Nan Patterson

Also Present: Drew Irvin, Village Administrator
Franco Bottalico, Administrative Intern

3. Approval of the April 27, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Member Sorensen moved to approve the April 27, 2016 SEC Meeting Minutes. Co-Chair Puryear seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

4. Non-Agenda Items and Visitors

Co-Chair Puryear stated the SEC allocates 15 minutes for those individuals who would like the opportunity to address the SEC on any matter not listed on the agenda.

There were no requests to address the SEC.

5. Order of the Meeting

At the request of those present, Member Sorensen moved to take the Agenda Item #6b then return to the regular order of the meeting. Member Walinskas seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

6. General Business

B. A Continued Discussion Regarding the Prioritization of Goals/Tasks

VA Irvin reviewed the revised definition and descriptions of each of the goals/tasks. VA Irvin stated the purpose of going over each goal/task is to verify that each Member has a better understanding of each goal/task. Co-Chair Puryear expressed it would be best to combine and cluster goals/tasks. There was an agreement by other Members on this point. VA Irvin stated that once there is agreement on a condensed list, then the SEC

can cluster the goals/tasks in a logical manner. The SEC began to go through the list of goals/tasks to refine the goals/tasks and further refine their definitions/descriptions.

Co-Chair Rener inquired on the difference in “Weather Severities” and “Emergency Preparedness.” A discussion ensued among the Members. VA Irvin stated there are great similarities and it would be best to combine the two together. The SEC Members agreed. Member Walinskas advised to name the combined goal/task “Emergency Preparedness.”

In an effort to avoid redundancy and due to overlapping descriptions Co-Chair Rener suggested combining “Sustainable Landscaping” and “Landscape Adaptation.” The Members agreed due to the overlapping actions.

VA Irvin explained “Bring Your Own Bag” goal/task to the Members. He stated it may act as a disincentive to the public from using plastic bags at grocery stores.

In regarding to the “Composting” goal/task VA Irvin commented on how the Finance Committee met and discussed putting out to bid the Village’s household waste contract. He explained how the 60% recycling SWALCO task force is moving towards pay-as-you-throw policies.

The Members agreed to remove “Organic Options at Farmers’ Market” as a goal/task due to the understanding many people go to a Farmers’ Market with an understanding of being able to purchase the organic food products.

When discussing “Pet Policies” the members ensued on a conversation if biodegradable bags are beneficial to the environment. The Members agreed to revisit this Goal/Task in the future, and if this is more of a Village Board issue rather than an SEC issue.

Co-Chair Puryear recommended adding “Urban Landscapes, Open Lands and Forestry” to “Sustainable Landscaping.” The Members unanimously agreed.

VA Irvin recommended adding “Partnering with local restaurants” to the definition/description of “Local Food Production.” The SEC agreed to cluster “Local Food Production” with “Employment and Workforce Training.”

VA Irvin recommended clustering “Community Education and Events / Environmental Festival” with “Coordinate with Local Groups and Agencies to Further Sustainability and Enhancement.” The SEC Members agreed.

The SEC discussed “Backyard Chicken and Bees.” The SEC agreed to separate and create two separate goals/tasks. The SEC Members agreed.

VA Irvin recommended clustering “Gasoline Landscape Blowers” with “Air Quality/Pollution” and “Noise Pollution.” The SEC Members agreed.

VA Irvin recommended clustering “Public Policy/Action Regarding Neighboring Communities’ Actions that Affect Lake Bluff” with “Coordinate with Local Groups and Agencies to Further Sustainability and Enhancement” and “Community Education and Events/Environmental Festival.” The SEC Members agreed.

Co-Chair Renner suggested refining “Air Quality/Pollution.” VA Irvin suggested rewording this definition to reflect the SEC’s concerns rather than a health department concern.

At this point Member Danly entered the Meeting.

Co-Chair Puryear recommended clustering “Transportation Infrastructure” with “Public Transportation Support.” The SEC Members agreed. A discussion ensued regarding bicycle use in the North Shore and a possible bicycle sharing program, similar to Divvy, that the Village may consider offering to the community.

Member Walinkas recommended clustering “Impacts to Water Supplies and Food Sources” with “Water Conservation, Quality and Use.” The SEC members agreed.

Co-Chair Renner commented “Employment and Workforce Training” can tie into the local schools and businesses. Co-Chair Puryear stated this can be an educational tool.

The SEC agreed to cluster “Pedestrian Walkways and Bicycle Pathways” with “Transportation Infrastructure” and “Public Transportation Support”.

The SEC agreed to combine “Enhanced Natural and Community Appearance” with “Sustainable Landscaping” and “Landscape Adaptation.”

Member Sorensen recommended clustering “Green Power” with “Energy Efficiency and Conservation.” The SEC Members agreed.

Co-Chair Renner recommended combining “Power Source Reliability” with “Emergency Preparedness.” The SEC Members agreed.

The SEC agreed to combine “50% Reduction in Building Permits for any Building to Acquire LEED Certification” and “LEED or Green Building Codes” into “Building Codes, Energy and Green.”

VA Irvin recommended adding “Business Emissions/Waste” with “Recycling in Public Spaces and Businesses” since businesses will be separated from that goal/task.

The SEC agreed to combine “Green Transportation” with “Transportation Infrastructure” due to their interrelated objectives.

At the conclusion of the list of Goals/Tasks VA Irvin suggested that due to the length of time spent on the definitions/descriptions, the SEC might not be working on the prioritization of the list (Agenda Item #6a). The goal is for each member to place three stickers, each of different color, and rank them in order of highest to lowest priority based on each individual Member. The SEC membership concurred.

A. A Discussion Regarding Local Beekeeping Regulations

VA Irvin transitioned to “Backyard Chicken and Bees” goal/task. He explained his recent discussion with a resident who was inquiring on having an apiary on his property. VA Irvin advised the resident to check with their homeowner’s association and see if

this is something they would allow. If so, this might be a pilot program for the SEC to present to the Village Board for consideration.

Co-Chair Puryear stated after speaking with beekeepers, they advised that bees do not like fences/shrubs near their flight path. Co-Chair Puryear stated that bees are not as much of a threat as yellow jackets are.

VA Irvin explained what is authorized under the current Village Code and how lot sizes affect the ability to keep bees. He also stated the State of Illinois requires citizens to register apiaries for public health efforts, as well as their own regulations to apiaries. VA Irvin explain his conversation he had with the Community Development Director of the City of Evanston, and how they regulate certain apiary registration and a pending notification process of the apiaries to neighbors.

VA Irvin advised the SEC they can create different regulations, fees and processes for residents for them to own an apiary. VA Irvin stated if the SEC feels apiaries may be a benefit to the community, they should discuss the option and work with the interested resident on a pilot program to recommend to the Village Board.

Co-Chair Puryear commented on why it is important to have more bees pollinating the local area. Co-Chair Rener expressed his concern of be sting incidents and bee-sting precautions that the SEC should consider.

For the next regular scheduled meeting, VA Irvin stated he will reach out to experts and others who have experience with apiaries to see if they can attend as an informational and educational guest speaker, as well as begin to prioritize the list of goals/tasks.

7. Village Staff Report

VA Irvin touched on backyard chicken issues, and inquired if the SEC would like to plan for this conversation. Co-Chair Puryear stated she would like to discuss this soon before the chicken-keeping season nears.

8. Member's Report

Due to Member Walinkas' departure of the Committee, she stated she will work with Village President O'Hara to recommend the Village Board appoint a schoolmate she is familiar with.

9. Co-Chair's Report

The Co-Chairs had nothing to report.

10. Adjournment

As no further business came before the SEC, Co-Chair Puryear moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Member Sorensen seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. Drew Irvin
Village Administrator