

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

February 24, 2016

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The Village of Lake Bluff Sustainability and Community Enhancement Ad Hoc Committee (SEC) met on February 24, 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
Liz Leutwiler
Nan Patterson
Anne Sorensen
Alexandra Walinskas

Absent: None

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

3. Approval of the January 27, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Puryear moved to approve the January 27, 2016 SEC Meeting Minutes with a correction to member Leutwiler's name. Member Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

4. Non-Agenda Items and Visitors

Co-Chair Rener 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

There were no requests to change the order of business.

6. General Business

A Presentation from Walter Willis

Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) Executive Director Walter Willis gave a presentation regarding SWALCO's mission and operations. He briefly explained and provided statistics on SWALCO's recycling and reuse programs, electronic recycling, and clothing and textile program collection sites. He described SWALCO's public information and school education activities and the role they play in public-private partnerships.

Executive Director Willis reviewed the municipal commercial waste hauler franchise initiatives that have been accepted by numerous Lake County municipalities. He also reviewed the process Lake Bluff used to adopt a commercial waste hauler ordinance.

Executive Director Willis reported on the results of the 60% Recycling Task Force Report and how the report increases recycling efforts by promoting friendly competition between local communities. He described the 2014 Plan (SWALCO's solid waste management plan) as a tool box decision makers and the public can use as a roadmap to achieve target goals in recycling. He stated Lake Bluff has met SWALCO's goal (1.5 lbs per person) of being under 1.6 lbs per person of residential waste per day and Lake Bluff will need to reach 1.35 lbs. by the year 2020. One method to achieve this is by promoting food scrap recycling.

Executive Director Willis stated, should the Village implement a food scrap recycling program, it would be of benefit to include a limited option to Lake Bluff's next waste hauling contract. The limited option allows customers to pay for any food scraps recycled over the base service amount. Furthering he noted the limited option will be beneficial to customers as it will decrease the amount of garbage being land filled.

Executive Director Willis explained SWALCO's food scrap compost site in Lake County noting it is one of the leaders in the State. SWALCO supports the ability of customers to add food scraps with their yard waste without incurring additional costs. SWALCO has been able to achieve this in six municipalities with Highland Park beginning shortly and Highwood will start a more progressive program in 2017.

Executive Director Willis stated DK Organics (located in the Village) has a special permit to recycle food scraps at their facility. He also added it may be possible to have a drop-off site with Groot allowing customers to drop-off food scraps on their own.

Co-Chair Puryear inquired why disposing organic material (also known as "wets") in a garbage disposal is not the preferred option. Executive Director Willis explained there is a concern the amount of water being used is off-setting the positive impact of recycling food scraps. He noted the conditions of a customer's sanitary sewer may not be able to handle the "wets."

Co-Chair Rener inquired where DK Organics sources food scraps. Executive Director Willis stated similar businesses would be looking for towns similar to Lake Bluff and in the business community. He noted having the appropriate infrastructure in close proximity to food scrap sites will drive programs to recycle food scraps. A discussion regarding food scrap recycling followed.

Executive Director Willis reviewed the programs and services promoted by the Village and SWALCO, noting: the countywide household chemical waste events; Lake Bluff's participation in the Save a Star Foundation (a safe manner of prescription drug disposal); and shoes and textile drop-off box. He stated SWALCO would like to see Lake Bluff acquire a food scrap option in Lake Bluff's waste contract, an option for customers to receive a larger recycling cart, and an option for customers to dispose electronics in the event SWALCO can no longer provide that service.

Member Patterson inquired if residential composting would attract animals. Executive

Director Willis advised using a container with a lid will help prevent small animals from accessing residential composts. A discussion ensued regarding providing an additional cart to customers, an a-la-carte option, and how to reduce the attraction of small animals to food compost.

VA Irvin stated certain haulers have the ability to weigh individual waste containers through technology and scales. Executive Director Willis noted measuring waste collection of this nature can be difficult; however, Highland Park utilizes a sticker program (Pay as You Throw) with a base fee of \$5.60 per month and every additional sticker is \$2.75. He further explained Highland Park uses technology similar to a tollway transponder to track the number of times a cart is tipped for a specific customer. Residents are then billed electronically based on the number of tips. A discussion ensued regarding the Village's current household waste a-la-carte services.

Member Danly asked what is the best way the SEC can inform the community about the benefits of food scrap recycling. He discussed various educational tools available. He added that addressing and answering the "why" and the "how" is important to encourage recycling.

VA Irvin commented that the Village, as a community, recycles well and suggested the SEC focus on food scraping and composting (the "wets"). VA Irvin explained how Lake Bluff has met its incremental goals and how it is meeting future goals.

Executive Director Willis thanked the SEC for allowing him to present and wished them success in accomplishing their goals.

A Discussion Regarding the Prioritization of Goals/Tasks

Co-Chair Renner stated the list of goals/tasks was prioritized, ranked and then transposed to the table provided in the packet. VA Irvin assigned them based on his evaluation of the Village's needs and the community's ability to accomplish the goals/tasks.

Following its discussion and review of the goals/tasks, the SEC had no changes to the prioritization and VA Irvin requested the Members forward any additional items for the list via email to his attention.

The following are the goals/tasks VA Irvin discussed in the SEC's "easy" column:

- Recycling in public spaces and businesses
- Public transportation support
- Sustainable landscape
- Weather severities
- Incentives for electric cars

- Vehicle idling
- School and community gardens
- Bring-your-own-bag
- Organic options at Farmers' Market

Co-Chair Puryear inquired of the Village's regulations regarding the keeping of chickens and apiaries in residential areas. VA Irvin advised chickens are allowed if the property meets certain requirements, i.e. a certain size. A discussion ensued regarding the manner in which the Village would regulate chickens and apiaries in the residential areas.

Co-Chair Rener inquired on how the SEC will make recommendations to the Village Board. VA Irvin clarified SEC's role to the Village Board.

Co-Chair Puryear asked to explain the police pension alternative investment suggestion. Co-Chair Rener clarified the issue and why he listed this as an issue to consider. A discussion prompted by Co-Chair Rener ensued regarding building permit fees and incentives to green builders.

Member Sorensen stated the Village should encourage the use of pavers instead of asphalt when redoing driveways. A discussion followed on how this affects storm water runoff.

Co-Chair Puryear presented a graphic to the SEC regarding the impact the size of a home has on run-off water any given year.

VA Irvin informed the SEC he and the Village Engineer will be attending a meeting with the Great Lakes Alliance in June of 2016 regarding ravine maintenance and improvement.

Co-Chair Puryear expressed her concern on the possibility of certain lawn care services using the ravine to discard grass clippings and how educating the public on the ravine destruction can deter that type of activity.

7. Village Staff Report

VA Irvin stated he and the Public Works Superintendent met with Commonwealth Edison regarding their Smart-Ready LED Street Lighting Program (Program). This Program will replace the existing mercury vapor lighting infrastructure (not Village owned) with new LED fixtures. VA Irvin explained this is Commonwealth Edison's equipment and they will maintain it and the Village pays for the electricity used. Following a discussion of the matter, the SEC reached a consensus to recommend the Village Board authorize the Program and to encourage the Village to develop a plan to modify the other post lights in the Village to LED.

Co-Chair Rener inquired of the status of addressing flooding concerns under the Sheridan Road viaduct. VA Irvin advised a study has been completed by Christopher B. Burke

Engineering and shared the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). IDOT is now reviewing the report to better understand the flooding issue and impacts.

VA Irvin advised the SEC that presently the Central Lake County Joint Action Water Agency (CLCJAWA) is also considering a request from Old Mill Creek to secure JAWA water.

8. Member's Report

The members had nothing to report.

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 9:21 p.m. Member Leutwiler seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. Drew Irvin
Village Administrator