

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

**May 30, 2018
7:00 P.M.
Village Hall Board Room
40 East Center Avenue**

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The Village of Lake Bluff Sustainability and Community Enhancement Ad Hoc Committee (SEC) met on May 30, 2018 in the Village Hall Board Room (40 E. Center Avenue) at 7:03 p.m. and the following members were present:

2. Roll Call

Present: Marina Carney Puryear, Co-Chair
Emmet Brady
Nan Patterson
Anne Sorensen

Absent: Leslie Bishop
Liz Leutwiler
Brian Rener, Co-Chair

Also Present: Glen Cole, Assistant to the Village Administrator (AVA)

3. Consideration of the April 25, 2018 Sustainability and Community Enhancement Committee (SEC) Meeting Minutes

Member Sorensen moved to approve the April 25, 2018 SEC Meeting Minutes. Member Brady seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

4. Non-Agenda Items and Visitors (Public Comment)

Co-Chair Puryear stated that 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. Sustainability Plan

AVA Cole introduced the Sustainability Plan to the committee for review. A brief discussion commenced.

Co-Chair Puryear stated that she likes the organization of the plan and that it is consistent with our priorities.

Member Brady was curious about what the green text entailed. AVA Cole explained the green text as successes. A brief discussion commenced.

Co-Chair Puryear asked a question in regards to commercial recycling. AVA Cole explained the study to the committee. A brief discussion commenced.

Member Sorensen expressed her support for the layout, color coding, timeframes, expectations, and action steps of the plan.

Co-Chair Puryear asked if there are any plugins. AVA Cole responded by stating that there are no plugins.

Member Sorensen asked about how many electric cars exist within the village.

AVA Cole expressed that building permits are required for electrical chargers for cars. He also explained the pricing structure to the committee. A brief discussion commenced.

Member Patterson asked where these chargers are located. Co-Chair Puryear stated that two are located at the Market House in Lake Forest. Member Brady stated there are chargers located at the Northbrook Mall. He mentioned that if you own a Chevy Volt, there is a free charge with the Chevy Volt.

Co-Chair Puryear mentioned the idea of incentivizing, especially the vehicle stickers. Member Patterson mentioned the idea of special parking for electric cars. A brief discussion commenced.

Members Patterson stated that she would like to see more bicycle racks. Member Sorensen stated that this item is already mentioned with the sustainability plan. Member Brady expressed his support for the cool designs. Co-Chair Puryear stated that what Lake Forest did with their bicycle racks was not the most beautiful thing but it serves its purpose.

Member Patterson talked about the prioritization of the plan. AVA Cole explained his goals for the prioritization of this plan. A brief discussion commenced.

Member Brady stated that the committee should pick one big topic of interest. Co-Chair Puryear mentioned that the committee should go one at a time by segments. Member Brady expressed that some are more specific than others and some are easier than others. He stated that stormwater may be easier than water conservations. Co-Chair Puryear stated that some communities disallow water usage on Monday for example based off the flexibility of an irrigation schedule. Member Patterson mentioned the sign boards that exist in Lake Forest advertise watering days. Co-Chair Puryear stated that Lake Forest is more restricted than Lake Bluff.

Member Patterson was unaware of the situations that occur with water sprinklers. AVA Cole mentioned how difficult it is to enforce water sprinklers. A brief discussion commenced.

Co-Chair Puryear mentioned that we should ask that sprinkler systems get programmed 5:00pm to 11:00am at the time of backflow prevention inspection. Member Sorensen stated that it should be pushed out a bit more to save your water bill. Co-Chair Puryear expressed that the benchmark might be skewed by things like pollinator gardens that need more water but are positives for the village. She stated that benchmarks aren't necessarily a good thing if you've got a gardener next to a grass person. Member Sorensen mentioned to take this all with a grain a salt. She stated that you'll save no matter what if you avoid watering at 3:00pm, when half or more of the water is evaporating. Co-

Chair Puryear corrected herself by stating 10:00pm not 11:00pm.

Member Brady brought up the topic of stormwater. He asked where the SEC fits in that equation. Member Brady explained that drains themselves are the problem and need to be addressed. He stated that besides the drains, the soil and permeable surfaces are two areas that need to be addressed as well. Member Brady mentioned that the Village can spend money on capital but we need to talk about tiles, bio swales, etc.

Co-Chair Puryear stated that runoff is an important topic to address.

Member Sorensen stated that there are multiple tiers or bites we can take in our purview.

Co-Chair Puryear mentioned that we can also talk about improving stormwater management where they haven't so far.

Member Sorensen mentioned that we're all looking at this topic. She mentioned the weather for this evening and that this rain means the wettest rain on record in Chicago. Member Sorensen stated that we need to find multiple ways to better handle these rain events and storm management issues.

Co-Chair Puryear expressed the presence of rain barrels at the Farmers Market would be a solid start.

Member Brady mentioned the idea of creating a program to encourage watering lawns with rain barrels for example.

Member Sorensen stated that downspout connections should be banned. She stated that some of these are built in which would make it difficult to ban.

Co-Chair Puryear mentioned the idea of a transfer tax to pay for these things.

AVA Cole talked about stormwater utility, transfer tax, and other ways. A brief discussion commenced.

Co-Chair Puryear stated that we could use more bike education. Member Brady talks about the education of young people with driving a car or riding a bike. Member Patterson stated that everyone could benefit from more bicyclist education.

AVA Cole provided the committee with a summary of the conversation so far for this topic. He stated that Village Staff will draft a vision and keep working on the Sustainability Plan.

B. Other Upcoming Work

a. Village Corridor/Gateway Beautification Planning Project

AVA Cole explained the Village Corridor/Gateway Beautification Planning Project to the committee. A brief discussion commenced.

Member Brady asked if Lake Bluff Open Lands Association (LBOLA) objected to this project.

AVA Cole stated that LBOLA does object this project. A brief discussion commenced.

b. 2019 Community Gardening and Community Seed Bank Opportunities

AVA Cole explained the 2019 Community Gardening Opportunities to the committee. A brief discussion commenced.

Member Brady stated that the open patch at North Avenue is some kind of community garden or some kind of beautification.

AVA Cole mentioned that both are a double lot.

Co-Chair Puryear explained the deed restrictions on the green patch.

AVA Cole stated that it was not that far south. A brief discussion commenced.

AVA Cole explained the Community Seed Bank Opportunities to the committee. A brief discussion commenced.

Co-Chair Puryear stated Partners for Plants Programs and the Garden Club of America.

Member Patterson talked about how the garden club would be the natural focus on education and seed collection.

Member Sorensen mentioned LBOLA.

Co-Chair Puryear mentioned Wildland Firefighters.

AVA Cole mentioned repurposed card library.

Co-Chair Puryear mentioned cold storage, climate control, etc. were worth exploring. Member Patterson mentioned the Evanston Library and Chicago Botanic Garden.

c. “Dark Sky” Ordinances to control light pollution including glare, light trespass, and skyglow

AVA Cole explained “Dark Sky” ordinances to the committee. A brief discussion commenced.

Member Sorensen expressed a number of reasons why this is reasonable and good. She stated that some of us grew up being able to see the Milky Way but now there are few places left in the U.S. that do that. Member Sorensen stated that foundationally maybe we need to be a leader in this and say this is of value to us. A brief discussion commenced.

Co-Chair Puryear expressed that if Flagstaff, AZ can do this, or Ketchum, ID can do this, then why not Lake Bluff, IL.

Member Brady requested what it takes. AVA Cole talked about shielding, temperature, and total output. A brief discussion commenced.

Co-Chair Puryear asked if someone was going to come in and talk about “Dark Sky”.

AVA Cole stated that the agenda is up to the committee.

Co-Chair Puryear mentioned the idea of having a speaker in regards to “Dark Sky” in September. A brief discussion commenced.

Member Brady stated the July SEC Meeting will be his final meeting as a member of the SEC.

7. Village Staff Report

AVA Cole had nothing to report.

8. Member's Report

Member Brady explained to the committee that he has someone interested in succeeding him. He stated that her name is Emma Johnson of the Environmental Club at Lake Forest High School.

Member Sorensen requested Member Brady to talk about the Earth Day and Environmental Forum. Member Brady responded with his report. A brief discussion commenced.

Member Sorensen stated that it was a nice event. Member Brady stated the Environmental Club seemed to like it.

9. Co-Chair's Report

Co-Chair Puryear expressed the committee take attention to Foxconn. A brief discussion commenced.

Co-Chair Puryear formally thanked Member Brady for being a fabulous committee member as the school year came to an end. She mentioned that he has added a lot to this committee.

Member Brady thanked the group for the kind words and the opportunity to work with all of them.

10. Adjournment

As no further business came before the SEC, Member Sorensen moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:11p.m. Member Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Scopelliti
Administrative Intern