

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

January 25, 2017

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The Village of Lake Bluff Sustainability and Community Enhancement Ad Hoc Committee (SEC) met on January 25, 2017 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: Marian Carney Puryear, Co-Chair
Brian Rener, Co-Chair
Emmet Brady (arrived at 7:35 p.m.)
Liz Leutwiler
Anne Sorensen

Absent: Jill Danly
Nan Patterson

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

3. Approval of the November 30, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Puryear moved to approve the November 30, 2016 SEC Meeting Minutes. Member Leutwiler seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

4. Non-Agenda Items and Visitors

Co-Chair Rener 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. A Continued Discussion Regarding the Prioritization of Goals/Tasks.

Administrative Intern (AI) Bottalico introduced this agenda item. He gave an explanation of the condensing of the list and other actions that were taken by the SEC. He explained where the SEC was at in developing a sustainability goal in regards to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's toolkit.

Member Leutwiler commented on how the SEC will justify the order of the prioritization list. AI Bottalico advised when this list is approved, the Village can add its justification

in the communication tools the Village currently uses.

Co-Chair Renner inquired when we can present this list to the Village Board. AI Bottalico advised the SEC can present it to the Village Board during their COW meeting on February 27th.

AI Bottalico advised that he combined the Chicken and Bees pilot program together due to the current work the SEC is making towards those two goals/tasks.

Co-Chair Puryear moved to approve the prioritization list and forward it to the Village Board of Trustees for their review. The motion was seconded by Member Sorensen.

B. Review of a Draft Beekeeping Pilot Program

AI Bottalico advised he made the revisions concerning less regulation to the beekeeping pilot program that the SEC wanted from its last meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding other municipalities' beekeeping ordinances and best practices for the SEC to explore going forward.

Co-Chair Renner expressed his concerns over the new modifications. He stated he would rather be more cautious with the pilot program, with regards to number of hives per property, and requiring beekeepers to register with the Village.

A discussion ensued inquiring if the pilot program should require fencing or hedges/vegetation as a fly away barrier around the beehive.

Co-Chair Renner expressed his concern of protecting the bees from youths who may possibly damage the hives/bees. He also stated that renewals of beekeeping registration should be added in the language as a way to make sure the hives are properly kept and the beekeeper is using best practices. He also expressed favoring a barrier or some type of fencing/barrier around the hive(s) if a resident has an open yard for safety reasons.

A discussion ensued regarding possible allergies to bees.

Member Sorensen stated she finds a hedge to be more aesthetically pleasing and should suffice.

Co-Chair Puryear commented on the language of a hedge to reduce the opportunity of them becoming nuisances.

Co-Chair Renner inquired on number of hives on a lot, and possibly lowering the amount of hives to provide a healthy environment for bees, and how many pilot sites will be allowed to be going on at once.

A discussion ensued if the pilot program will be Village-wide or on a case-by-case basis.

Village Administrator (VA) Drew Irvin commented that the SEC can create the pilot program where applicants will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. In addition, he stated because this is a pilot program the Village has more authority over picking and choosing which sites to approve.

Co-Chair Puryear inquired on the beehives' heights and if they can be placed on rooftops. AI Bottalico advised it should be placed in an area where it is easily and safely accessible for Illinois Department of Agriculture employees to inspect the hives.

Co-Chair Renner stated that he'd like to keep signage that states "bees on the property" if there is a hedge/fence around the hives that the SEC would approve.

The SEC agreed that the beekeeping pilot program would be valid for two seasons/years before evaluating it for a possible ordinance.

Co-Chair Renner commented on the number of hives per property.

Co-Chair Puryear stated she does not want to limit the number of hives per property. A discussion ensued.

Member Leutwiler inquired on public education for encouraging the attachment of bees on personal property by planting the proper plants. The SEC agreed this would be part of their public education efforts.

Member Sorensen inquired if requiring the beekeepers to educate themselves on the keeping of bees will be one of the requirements prior to participate in beekeeping. A discussion ensued.

Co-Chair Renner suggested placing a maximum of two or three hives per property unless approved by the SEC and/or Village Board of Trustees. The SEC agreed to set the number of hives at three and discuss the quantity of hives per applicant. If applicant requests more than three hives, then it will be on a case-by-case basis for review and approval by the Village Board of Trustees.

Member Brady recommended keeping the hives off of the ground to keep away from animals. He also stated that he agreed with keeping a convenient water source available for the bees in the pilot program's language.

Co-Chair Renner suggested that providing the Village with a copy of their Illinois Department of Agriculture beekeeping application could serve as proper notification to the Village. This would be a convenient way for the Village to keep track of hives in the Village.

Co-Chair Renner stated to require the hives be no less than 10 feet from any primary residence structure.

C. Review of a Draft Backyard Chicken Pilot Program.

AI Bottalico introduce the backyard chicken keeping pilot program language.

Co-Chair Puryear commented that the sex of the fowl may be difficult to tell. Should the fowl be a rooster, language in the program should allow the keeper one week to find proper placement for the rooster, since they are not permitted.

Co-Chair Renner inquired if any other north shore communities have a similar ordinance.

He also asked if the SEC can have an expert come speak and educate the SEC on the keeping of chickens and best practices. He also inquired if limiting the chicken quantity, similar to bee hive quantities, by acre size.

Co-Chair Rener asked if the SEC should limit this to eggs only, or for consuming the chickens.

Co-Chair Puryear described the benefits of keeping backyard chickens, and her experience with keeping of backyard chickens.

Member Leutwiler would like a speaker to educate the SEC on the threats of predators to the chickens.

The SEC agreed to have an expert speaker attend the next meeting to educate them on chickens prior to commenting on this pilot program.

7. Village Staff Report

VA Irvin updated the SEC on the Village Board's approval of a household waste contract with Groot. Beginning February 1st the Village will offer curb-side e-waste pickup. With this contract, Lake Bluff will be the first municipality in Illinois to provide collection of certain food scraps year-round.

VA Irvin stated that a limited waste program encourages residents to limit their waste to inside their cart, and if they were to have more waste they can choose a throw-as-you-paw program. In addition the Village will offer the flexibility to choose larger containers.

Co-Chair Rener added that an additional container for certain food scrapping will also be available.

A discussion ensued on the environmental benefits of food scrapping rather than using the garbage disposal.

VA Irvin concluded that Groot will also now be using an all compressed natural gas (CNG) fleet.

8. Member's Report

Member Sorensen has been in contact with the National League of Women Voters for Lake Bluff and Lake Forest with their environmental task force. They offer their support to the SEC in working toward a partnership.

9. Co-Chair's Report

Co-Chair Rener shared news articles on extreme weather that is of interest to the SEC with regards to resiliency, sudden extreme weather, emergency preparedness and SEC long-term goals.

A discussion ensued on the changing climate and how the SEC can prepare for this in the future.

10. Adjournment

As no further business came before the SEC, Co-Chair Puryear moved to adjourn the

meeting at 8:33 p.m. Member Brady seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Franco Bottalico
Administrative Intern