

**VILLAGE OF LAKE BLUFF  
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING  
FEBRUARY 27, 2017**

**APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Village of Lake Bluff Board of Trustees met as a Committee-of-the-Whole (COW) in the Village Hall Board Room (40 East Center Avenue) on Monday, February 27, 2017. Village President O’Hara called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and Village Clerk Aaron Towle called the roll.

The following were present:

Village President:	Kathleen O’Hara
Trustees:	Barbara Ankenman Steve Christensen Eric Grenier John Josephitis
Absent:	Mark Dewart, Village Trustee William Meyer, Village Trustee
SEC Members:	Brian Rener, Co-Chair Emmet Brady, Member Jill Danly, Member Liz Leutwiler, Member Anne Sorensen, Member
Also Present:	Aaron Towle, Village Clerk Drew Irvin, Village Administrator Peter Friedman, Village Attorney Susan Griffin, Finance Director Jeff Hansen, Village Engineer Michael Croak, Building Codes Supervisor David Belmonte, Police Chief Jake Terlap, Public Works Superintendent Glen Cole, Assistant to the Village Administrator

**Non-Agenda Items and Visitors**

President O’Hara stated the COW allocates 15 minutes for those individuals who would like the opportunity to address the COW on any matter not listed on the agenda.

There were no requests to address the COW.

**Consideration of the Minutes from the January 9, 2017 Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting**

Trustee Grenier moved to approve the January 9, 2017 COW Meeting Minutes as presented. Trustee Ankenman seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**Informational Report from the Sustainability and Community Enhancement Committee**

Village President O’Hara invited those present representing the Village’s Sustainability and Community Enhancement Committee (SEC) to address the Committee-of-the-Whole. Mr. Brian Rener, Vice Chair of the SEC, came forward to present a review of the SEC’s activities and work plan.

Mr. Rener stated that on October 26, 2015, the Sustainability and Community Enhancement Committee (SEC) was established as an advisory body to the Village President, Board of Trustees and Village Administrator. There are seven Members of the SEC that are appointed to advise Village leadership on ways to improve the sustainability of the Village and enhance the community environment and beautification efforts for all current and future residents.

Mr. Rener continued that over the past several months the SEC has held public meetings and has invited various professionals and experts to educate the SEC on certain topics. The SEC has received educational presentations and discussions regarding the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County, Green Minds Lake Forest-Lake Bluff, sustainability activities undertaken by Lake County, the Lake County Beekeepers, and representatives of nearby municipalities regarding common local regulations for beekeeping.

Mr. Rener stated the SEC has recently created a list of goals/tasks as their work plan, prioritized as to realistic goals and achievability. The work plan provides a brief description of each goal/task and an action and implementation strategy to achieve each. The SEC recommends the Village Board review the list of goals/tasks and offer any revisions, if necessary.

Mr. Rener stated the first priority of the SEC is education. The SEC has agreed that education will be the Village’s greatest tool in achieving public participation. The SEC has placed backyard chicken and beekeeping as its second priority due to the Village receiving requests by certain residents who wish to volunteer for these pilot programs. The SEC has prepared draft chicken and beekeeping pilot programs which have been developed from a blend of best practices and other comparable communities’ ordinances. Before making any further revisions to the pilot programs, the SEC would like to receive feedback and guidance from the Village Board.

Mr. Rener went on to say that, if approved the SEC will begin to work on a local sustainability plan, one of their milestone goals. This requires the SEC and members of the community to collaboratively develop strategies and analyze potential measures to achieve these goals. At the conclusion of their work, the SEC will recommend its final Sustainability Plan be considered by the Village Board for review and adoption.

Mr. Rener concluded his presentation.

Village President O’Hara asked about the SEC’s timeline for presentation and implementation of the sustainability plan. Mr. Rener responded that they have not set a firm timeline, but that they would work cooperatively with the board to set one. Village Administrator Irvin asked if there were items that could be implemented in the near future. The Committee discussed opportunities to improve and beautify areas of Village-owned property.

Trustee Grenier asked how the SEC intends to support beekeeping within the Village. Mr. Rener responded that the SEC’s focus would be on education and outreach. The SEC has been approached by a community member who is already participating in these efforts. Trustee Grenier asked if other pollenating animals, such as bats, were being considered in the SEC’s programming. Village

Administrator Irvin responded that the intent was for the bee and chicken programs under consideration to be pilot programs that are limited in scope, with the possibility for other similar initiatives to come forward later.

Trustee Grenier asked about the SEC's intentions as to community gardens, specifically how they would be established, where they would be located, and the best practices in operating them. Mr. Rener responded that the SEC has discussed various sites and empty lots. Village Administrator Irvin noted that there was formerly a community garden on Scranton, and that a resident group was meeting the morning of March 4<sup>th</sup> in the Public Safety Building Community Room to discuss establishment of another community garden on private property at the corner of East Witchwood and Newman Court.

Village President O'Hara stated that, before a pilot program is finally considered or an ordinance drafted for recommendation to the Village Board, the SEC should hold public hearings and allow for discussion by residents before the ordinance is drafted.

Members of the SEC reviewed the various activities and presentations they have participated in, and discussed the further development of the beekeeping pilot program and the Sustainability Plan. Village Administrator Irvin, in response to a question, said that the SEC's work product would be a Sustainability Plan adopted as an appendix to the Village Comprehensive Plan.

President O'Hara invited public comment addressed to the Committee of the Whole. Mike Goldsberry of 523 E. North Avenue addressed the Committee. He expressed his appreciation for the SEC's research into community agriculture, and hopes it will develop on an area dedicated for its use like a co-op. He previously lived in Woodstock, and noted that chicken and bee keeping are not unobtrusive activities.

Dr. Bob Swee addressed the Committee. He is interested in beekeeping and has been working with the SEC as they consider their regulations. He has missed his opportunity to establish a beehive this year as the seasons have started to change, but he hopes to do so next year if the Village allows it.

### **Adjournment**

As no further business came before the COW, Village President O'Hara called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made and passed on a unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Glen Cole  
Assistant to the Village Administrator