



Village of Winnetka

Environmental and Forestry Commission Meeting

January 8, 2025 at 7:00 PM
Winnetka Village Hall Council Chambers - 510
Green Bay Road

AGENDA

- 1. Introduction & Chair's Remarks**
- 2. Public Comments**
- 3. Review and Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Approval of the November 13, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes
- 4. Old Business Updates**
 - a. 2024 in review: accomplishments, discussion
 - b. 2025 Green Award announcement/timing/submissions
 - c. Communications items & process review
- 5. New Business**
 - a. Website review/updates
 - b. Sustainability/Climate Action plan development
 - c. 2025 Commission priority-planning & scheduling
- 6. Communications**
- 7. Committee/Staff Reports**
- 8. Open Forum**
- 9. Adjournment**

NOTICE

All agenda materials are available at villageofwinnetka.org (**Government > Council Information > Agenda Packets & Minutes**); the Reference Desk at the Winnetka Library; or in the Manager's Office at Village Hall (2nd floor). The Village of Winnetka, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that all persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities, contact the Village ADA Coordinator, at 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois 60093, 847-716-3543; T.D.D. 847-501-6041.

**WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 13, 2024**

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held in the Police Department Conference Room, 410 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois, Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Chair Hanley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Voting Members present: Chair Patrick Hanley and Commissioners Elizabeth Kunkle, Tim Ring, David Varca, Greg Frezados, and Brendan Andrew. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Village Council Representative present: Bob Dearborn. Student Representative Present: None. Interim Staff Liaison present: James Bernahl, Director of Engineering

1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:

Chair Hanley welcomed the group and asked everyone to confirm their availability to attend the December regular meetings with the new Sustainability Coordinator Liaison.

2) Public Comment:

None

3) Review and Approval of Minutes

a) Approval of the October 9, 2024, special Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Andrew, seconded by Commissioner Ring to approve the minutes as presented.

AYES: KUNKLE, RING, VARCA, ANDREW, FREZADOS

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: ECK.

4) Old Business Updates:

a) Energy forum Update

Chair Hanley overviewed the topic and discussed the presentation materials that were presented. He also indicated that the information is also available online to be reviewed.

Discussion of what is the schedule for the IEMA contract. Chair Hanley provided a high-level overview, and Representative Dearborn indicated that the Village will be hosting a meeting on December 10th to further discuss this contract.

b) Green Bay Trail Update

Chair Hanley presented the topic, and representative Dearborn provided an update to the commission on the clearing activities by the volunteer groups to date, and the planting programs scheduled for next spring.

5) New Business

Chair Hanley noted there is one item on the agenda for the evening and the topic was on power alternatives.

a) Commissioner Initiatives & 2025 Planning

Chair Hanley briefly overviewed the Commissioner Andrew was intersected in providing a presentation on Power Alternatives. Commissioner Andrew provided a high-level overview of the items that he will be presenting at a future EFC meeting. Topics to be presented include residential energy programs, the prospect of selling this energy back to IEMA, offering utility credits, and future pilot projects

6) Communications:

a) December Communications Items

There were no comments.

b) January Communications Items

To be presented as part of the December agenda materials. There were no comments.

Chair Hanley stated Communications would be an area of focus and discussion next year for the Commission.

7) Commission/Staff Reports:

None

8) Open Forum:

Non topics

Commissioner Andrew indicated that he would be ready to present his findings at the next EFC meeting in November.

9) Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chair Hanley asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Andrew. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote; the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.



**VILLAGE OF WINNETKA
ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION**

Patrick Hanley, Chairperson
Elizabeth Kunkle, Commissioner
David Varca, Commissioner
Brendan Andrew, Commissioner
Peter Eck, Commissioner
Gregory Frezados, Commissioner
Tim Ring, Commissioner
Bob Dearborn, Trustee Representative
Marcus Buccellato, Student Representative
Scarlett Harper, Student Representative

GREEN AWARD NOMINATION

The Winnetka Green Awards were developed by the Village's Environmental and Forestry Commission to recognize properties, households, and businesses that demonstrate exceptional commitment sustainable and environmentally-friendly practices within the Village of Winnetka.

Please complete the following information to nominate a property within Winnetka for a Green Award:

Property Address: _____

Owner: _____

Owner's Phone and E-mail: _____

1. Award Category (check all that apply):

- ☐ **Climate:** Projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, maintain clean and healthful air, and develop resiliency to climate change impacts.
- ☐ **Economic Development:** Project that promote innovation and cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs, and businesses.
- ☐ **Energy:** Projects that reduce energy output such as increasing efficiency or utilizing renewable energy.
- ☐ **Land:** Projects that conserve, utilize, or restore existing land (e.g., native plants).
- ☐ **Leadership:** Projects that work collaboratively towards a sustainable region or advocate for policies that align with sustainable practices.



- ☐ **Mobility:** Projects that support safe, effective, and efficient transportation that uses resources wisely, integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs and regulation, or promote public and sustainable transportation choices.
- ☐ **Municipal Operations:** Projects that lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices, integrate sustainability into all municipal operations, operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet, collect and manage data to advance sustainability.
- ☐ **Sustainable Communities:** Projects that promote cultural vibrancy in the community; foster a culture of health, safety and wellness; increase access to sustainably grown local food; promote a sustainable identity for the community; or cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability.
- ☐ **Water/Stormwater:** Projects that filter stormwater runoff or store stormwater on property such as bioswales, rain gardens or rain barrels.
- ☐ **Waste & Recycling:** Projects that substantially reduce waste or use of recycled material. Such projects may include use of a composter, reusing recycled materials or diverting waste from landfills.
- ☐ **Innovation/Other:** All other projects that do not fit into an above category.

2. **Property Type** (check one):

- ☐ Private
- ☐ Commercial
- ☐ Public

3. **Brief Description of the Project and Benefits** (use extra pages if needed): _____

4. **Approximate Date of Project Completion:** _____



5. **Name, Address, Phone Number and Email of Nominator:** _____

6. **Photos Enclosed**

7. **Signature of Nominator:** _____

8. **Signature of Property Owner:** _____

Please send this form with photos attached and other documentation, or direct questions, to:

Erik Jensen, Assistant Director of Public Works
1390 Willow Road, Winnetka, IL 60093
847-716-3534 or ejensen@winnetka.org

Guidelines:

- You can nominate your own property or as many projects as you like, as long as you get the owner's signature.
- The project must have been completed within the past 5 years.
- Commercial, public, or private properties are eligible.
- All applications are reviewed and awarded by members of the Environmental and Forestry Commission.
- Deadline for application is February 29, 2024. Awards are announced at the Village Council meeting closest to April 22nd (Earth Day).

Award Criteria:

Applications will be evaluated by the Village of Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission based on how well the projects or initiatives meet the following criteria:

- **Positive Impact** - The project must have a meaningful and demonstrable impact in Winnetka by helping protect the environment or enhance the quality of life for residents.
- **Embraces Innovation/Creativity** - The project should reflect a new concept, technology, or practice in Winnetka and should employ new ideas in the industry.
- **Overcomes Challenges** - The project should explain what challenges were overcome.
- **Transferable** - The project should be able to be replicated by others in similar situations.
- **Demonstrates Initiative** - The project should reflect how the individual or group took action to move sustainability forward in their position or community.

Green Award Nomination

Winnetka Green Awards were developed by the Village’s Environmental and Forestry Commission to recognize properties, households, and businesses that demonstrate exceptional commitment to sustainable and environmentally-friendly practices within the Village of Winnetka. To submit a nomination, please complete the form below by March 14, 2025.

Resident/Business Owner name (Nominee)*

Nominated by (Individuals can self-nominate)

Nominee property address*

Nominee phone number*

Nominee email*

Property type*

- ☐ Residential
- ☐ Commercial

Type of project (check all that apply)*

- ☐ Energy/building efficiency
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Land/habitat
- ☐ Transportation/mobility
- ☐ Waste/recycling
- ☐ Other

Description of project*

Photos and attachments (as relevant)

Choose FileNo file chosen