

WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
January 9, 2019

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held in the Council Chambers at Village Hall, 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois, Wednesday, January 9, 2019, at 7:00 pm.

Call to Order: Acting Chairperson Foley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; voting Members present: Chris Foley, Rosann Park-Jones, David Varca, Mike Nielsen and Liz Kunkle. Voting Members absent: Chuck Dowding and Barry Sylvester. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Ex-officio Members present: None. Village Council Representative Present: Andrew Cripe. Student Representative Absent: Clark O'Bryan. Staff Representative Present: Matt Havlik, Public Works Analyst. No members of the public were present.

- 1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks: Acting Chairperson Foley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all Commission members.
- 2) Review and Summary of Minutes:
 - a) Adoption of the December 12, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes: Acting Chairperson Foley asked for a motion to approve the December 12, 2018 minutes which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Nielsen.
 - b) November 14, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes (As Amended): Acting Chairperson Foley stated that the amended November 14, 2018 meeting minutes are included in the packet for reference. Acting Chairperson Foley asked for a motion to approve the amended November 14, 2018 minutes which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Park-Jones.
- 3) New Business, Old Business/Updates:
 - a) Park District Liaison Discussion: Matt Havlik stated that the Park District is aware of this request and that Village staff is in conversation with Park District staff about this matter.
 - b) Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Greenest Region Compact 2 Discussion:
 - i) GRC2 Framework:

Acting Chairperson Foley provided some remarks from Chuck Dowding regarding how the Commission should proceed with selecting goals to present to Village

Council. Acting Chairperson Foley explained the information from Chuck Dowding regarding the taxonomy of the goals within the GRC2 framework. Acting Chairperson Foley explained that not all of the goals carry the same weight and that there are various objectives, strategies and advanced strategies that contribute to various goals. The Commission agreed to keep this information in mind throughout the review of the goals. Acting Chairperson Foley mentioned that this information is explained in further detail on the first page of the GRC2 framework document.

Acting Chairperson Foley thanked Matt Havlik for compiling the list of goals from Commission members into a spreadsheet. Matt Havlik explained that the spreadsheet shows goals that were mentioned multiple times by members, indicating higher interest. Matt Havlik added that he received confirmation that the Commission is set to present to Village Council at the March 19th regular meeting.

Acting Chairperson Foley guided the Commission through the list of goals in the spreadsheet, discussing each one and ideas of how the Village can accomplish them. The Commission discussed goals from each of the 10 framework categories and the best way they could be presented to Village Council. The Commission also discussed the format for its presentation to Village Council. The Commission discussed various goals in the Energy, Land and Water categories that were similar and could be grouped together under and presented as a single item that could accomplish multiple goals.

Trustee Cripe added that the Commission should consider grouping goals into various categories such as those requiring adoption of an ordinance, those that direct staff to do something (such as an energy audit), or those that involve educating the public.

Matt Havlik noted that he will continue working with Village staff to develop a draft report and presentation. The Commission agreed this is a good course of action.

- ii) Introductory Paragraphs: Matt Havlik noted that this information is in the packet as a reference.

4) Communications:

- a) Approval of February Communications Items: The Commission discussed the draft articles for the month of February and agreed that they can be sent to the Village Manager's office for posting. Acting Chairperson Foley asked for a motion to approve the February communications items which were moved by Commissioner Park-Jones and

seconded by Commissioner Kunkle. Matt Havlik agreed to send this information to the Village Manager's Office.

- b) Discussion of March Communications Items: The Commission looked ahead to the March communication items and agreed upon who will draft articles for each topic.

5) Committee/Staff Reports:

- a) SolSmart Update: Matt Havlik noted that he has been participating in regular conference calls with the SolSmart cohort. Matt Havlik stated that the Village is on track with its goals to become a designated SolSmart community. Currently, staff is in the process of developing a permitting checklist for solar-related projects that will be posted online, providing a streamlined checklist of requirements. Matt Havlik said he is working with Community Development staff members, David Schoon and Brian Norkus, on developing this list.

Matt Havlik also stated that Village permitting staff is planning on participating in a solar permitting training webinar at the end of January. Participation in the training will help the Village achieve 10 of its required 60 points to become a SolSmart designated community. Matt Havlik also added that there is an opportunity to gain additional points by hosting a Solar Ambassador presentation within the community. Solar Ambassadors are volunteers through the Illinois Solar Foundation who go out into communities and talk to residents and businesses about the benefits of solar. Having a solar ambassador come to Winnetka would be a great way to engage the public on solar, and get SolSmart points at the same time. Matt Havlik stated he will provide the Commission with further details as he receives them.

Finally, Matt Havlik told the Commission that another requirement for SolSmart designation is to have The Solar Foundation complete a review of Winnetka's zoning requirements and identify restrictions that intentionally or unintentionally prohibit solar PV development. Matt Havlik said that The Solar Foundation is currently working on this and he will update the Commission when he receives the results back.

- b) Activity Calendar:

- i) LED Lighting Update: Matt Havlik explained to the Commission that four major projects were completed in 2018 in regard to LED lighting. In 2018, there was a total reduction of 56,307 watts which equates to 328,316 kilo-watt-hours from these four projects. Matt Havlik stated that the following projects were completed:

- 28 high pressure sodium (HPS) street light fixtures were replaced with LED street lights along the Ravines (Sheridan Road north of Tower Road).
- 152 interior fixtures were retrofitted with LED bulbs at the Fire department.
- 1,904 fixtures were upgraded to LED fixtures at the Winnetka Community House.
- 148 interior fixtures were upgraded to LED fixtures at the Winnetka Ice Rink.

- 6) Open Forum: Acting Chairperson Foley stated that the Commission is still interested in updating the EFC webpage to reflect the categories of the GRC2 framework document. Matt Havlik told the Commission that he passed this information along to the correct Village staff in charge of the website. Matt Havlik also told the Commission that this work requires a redesign, which costs money. Matt Havlik also stated that the Village is looking to find a new web hosting company so staff is holding off on major changes for the time being.
- 7) Public Comment: None.
- 8) Adjournment: There being no further business, Acting Chairperson Foley asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Park-Jones and seconded by Commissioner Nielsen. Having the motion passed, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.