

**VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
March 7, 2023 – MINUTES**

Virtual meeting participation allowed in accordance with Public Act 101-0640

Members in Attendance

Chrissy Christian, Co-Chair
Natalie Lichtenbert, Co-Chair
Trustee Anna Newell (virtual)
Lorraine Leisenberg
George Tuhowski
Alfredo Izquierdo (virtual)
Lewis Boshier
Lon Harner
Kymberli Mulford
Sheila Schwartz
Nancy Schaefer
Hannelore Conley (virtual)
Amy Decker

Members Absent

Trustee Gary Pilafas

Others in attendance: Rhonda Spenner, resident; Dale Spenner, resident; Aaron Howe, Assistant to the Public Works Director (staff liaison)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairperson Christian. A majority quorum of the commission was present at this time.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 7, 2023

MOTION by Commissioner Kymberli Mulford, **SECOND** by Commissioner Harner to approve the minutes from February 7, 2023 – **11-0 AYE**. Commissioner Conley abstained from the vote.

3. STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Howe reported that the Build a Birdhouse event will not be happening until next year. The commission discussed the role of subcommittees in providing recommended action on agenda items to the Commission for a vote.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Jeff Weiss, Flint Creek/Spring Creek Watersheds Partnership Presentation

Mr. Weiss provided the Commission with information on the Spring Creek watershed, including water quality, flooding, stewardship and conservation efforts, and opportunities to connect the Sustainability Commission with the Watershed Partnership.

b. Earth Day (April) - Park District Partnership

Co-chair Christian contacted Matt Schiller regarding Earth Day events with the Park District. Mr. Schiller informed her that there will be a volunteer event on Earth day and also a seed bombing event in the spring and will share more details when they are available.

c. Pollinator Month (June) - BioBlitz w/Illinois Monarch Project and Park District

Co-chair Lichtenbert presented the idea of hosting a Hoffman Estates BioBlitz with the Park District and the Illinois Monarch Project. She will provide more information for our meeting in April

d. Commission Annual Report/Sustainability Plan Status Update

This item will be discussed at a future meeting of the commission.

e. Speaker Possibilities

Co-chair Lichtenbert reported that she could contact a person to present on regenerative agriculture from Climate Reality Project for the Hoffman Estates community. Mr. Howe also has a contact through Green Grease who could come to speak to the Commission about food grease recycling.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Green Business Program Refresh/Promotion

Mr. Howe reconfirmed to hold the 2 interviews with the interested businesses and hopes to schedule those interviews soon.

b. Sustainability Commission Website Improvements

Commissioner Mulford presented 3 options for the Sustainability Commissions webpage. The Commission voted for option 1 (4), option 2 (0), option 3 (4).

c. Village Entryway Sign Landscaping Review

Mr. Howe will provide an update on this item at a future meeting of the commission.

d. Sustainable Practices at Village Events

Co-Chair Lichtenbert will give an update at next month's meeting. Commissioner Mulford mentioned that large bulk items should be considered as non-sustainable before submitting the list of suggestions. Co-chair Lichtenbert asked Commissioners to contact her about suggestions or updates to the list so they can be presented at next month's meeting.

e. Event and Newsletter Calendar

Commissioner Mulford suggested "Pollinators and Native Wildflowers" to be the next topic for the Commission in May/June. Further topics will be discussed at a future meeting.

f. Right-of-way Restoration Materials

This item will be discussed at a future meeting of the commission.

g. Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Mr. Howe reported that the Village is working on the Proclamation and will then move on to the next steps to fulfill the pledge. The reading of the proclamation will occur at the butterfly garden at 630 Illinois Boulevard on July 13th from 3 – 4pm.

h. Plastic Free July

Co-chair Lichtenbert shared an infographic that may be submitted to the Citizen newsletter.

6. OTHER

Commissioner Mulford commented that ComEd is working in Hoffman Estates and is hearing from residents that they would like to plant pollinator friendly plantings into the parkways. Mr. Howe reported that residents technically need permission from the Village to do any plantings on the parkways. Commissioner Bosher shared that he will be hosting a cleanup event on Earth Day (April22) with Jeff Weiss and the FC/SC watershed.

7. ITEMS IN REVIEW

- a. Sustainability Projects – Green Aggregation Civic Contribution Funds
- b. Stormwater Mitigation/Management
- c. New Commissioner Onboarding Materials

8. ADJOURNMENT – 7:43 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.