



VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Tuesday, November 17, 2020 – 7:00 PM
Village Hall – Via Remote Meeting, 400 Park Ave.,
River Forest, IL

Physical attendance at this public meeting is limited to 10 individuals, with Commission members, staff and consultants having priority over members of the public. Public comments will be shared with the Commission members. You may submit your written public comments via email in advance of the meeting to: janderson@vrf.us. You may listen to the meeting by participating in a Zoom conference call as follows: dial-in number: 312-626-6799 with meeting ID: 811 6502 3867 or by clicking here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81165023867>. If you would like to speak during public comment, please email janderson@vrf.us by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, November 17, 2020.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes
4. Commissioner Reports
5. Student Commissioner Introductions
6. Moving the Needle in 2020 – Update on Metrics - Shannon
7. Mayor’s Caucus EV Readiness Program - Eric
8. December Community Outreach on FB/IG/E-Newsletter - Lisa
9. Meeting Coverage - Lisa
10. Schedule Next Meeting – January 12, 2021
11. Adjournment



VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday October 13, 2020 – 7:00 PM

Call to order/Roll Call

Lisa Gillis
Eric Simon
Beth Cheng
Cary McLean
Susan Charrette
Lauren Behan

Meeting Minutes were approved

Commissioner Reports

Lauren met with the green for good club and they are all set for the pumpkin smash on November 12th. This will be coordinated by the schools and it will be something that will be sent out via e news and social media. D90 has reported in previous years that the number of pumpkins keeps increasing every year. This is now an annual event that gains popularity every year. A community composting virtual meeting lead by Seven Generations Ahead was something that Lauren attended. She learned about new ways to possibly enhance the program and possibly have drop off locations for composting.

Susan stated that the last of the parkway for pollinator gardens were planted last week, a total of 21 were planted this year. Many parkway gardens were planted at institutions this year.

Cary spoke about the possibility of a "meatless" Monday to promote in the future. She is also in the process of drafting a letter to the green lawn people. She will try to get both new and existing people to promote midwest goes green.

Eric said that he hasn't attended any meetings this past month.

Lisa stated that the sustainability commission won the MWRD sustainability award. There will be a virtual awards ceremony on 10/21. Lisa was interviewed by a class from Dominican University regarding climate change and the RF sustainability plan was shared with them as well.

River Forest Tree Trails

Beth followed up some of the residents who participated. The winner was notified about the composting prize. This information was provided to a Wednesday Journal reporter. Beth was

able to explain why we promote this in order to mitigate our emissions and all of the other benefits of trees. There will be more followup to see if there are any additional entries to the project. People also posted pictures of the trees and activity on social media.

RFSC Student Commissioners

Lisa spoke about the addition of new student commissioners. Lisa put forth a motion to expand the amount of student commissioners to a total of four commissioners. They would be able to work in teams of two and work with existing programs and new programs. All commissioners voted in favor of these new commissioners and renewing Ellie Raidt as a student commissioner.

RFSC Meeting Cadence

Lisa is asking for feedback on the frequency of meetings going forward. Most commissioners expressed having monthly meetings, but keeping the meetings shorter.

RFSC Budget Recommendation

Lisa spoke about the considerations of the upcoming budget. She explained that there are a number of options that could be explored in terms of programs that can be funded. There is also the funds that will be received due to electric aggregation as a part of the budget. The various ways these funds could be spent were discussed by the commissioners. These options will need to be presented and approved by the Village Board. A marketing and messaging platform was something that was brought up to invest in for the future as well. Lisa will break this down into a budget format and narrow down some of the options going forward.

Next meeting scheduled for November 17, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm

Respectfully Submitted:

Signature Line

John Anderson, Secretary

Signature Line

Lisa Gillis, Chairman
Sustainability Commission

Date: -----