



VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Village Hall – Via Remote Meeting, 400 Park Ave.,
River Forest, IL

Physical attendance at this public meeting is limited to 20 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: 891 2385 4610 or by clicking here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89123854610> If you would like to speak during public comment, please email janderson@vrf.us by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes
4. Commissioner Reports
5. Updated Process & Procedure for VRF Community Outreach via Email / FB / IG — John Anderson
6. Communicating RFSC Goals to the Residents of River Forest — Beth Cheng
7. Earth Day Communication / Celebration / Email — Lisa Gillis
8. RFSC GHG Metrics — 2020 v. 2021 — Shannon Roberts
9. Veg Out Update — Cary McLean, Ellie Raidt, Charles Roeger
10. TerraCycle — Susan Charrette
11. Schedule Next Meeting – May 11, 2021
12. Adjournment



VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday March 9, 2021 – 7:00 PM

Roll Call

Lisa Gillis
Eric Simon
Beth Cheng
Cary McLean
Susan Charrette
Shannon Roberts
Lauren Behan
Ellie Raidt
Charlotte Meyer
Luke Gilfillan
Charles Roeger

VRF EV Charging Stations

Resident Maggie Clancy was at the meeting to explain her input related to the Comed grant for a dual electric vehicle charging station. John Anderson and Eric Simon explained the details of the Powering Safe Communities Comed grant application for the station and installation. This was explained that it could be used by residents and future Village vehicles. The location was brought up by several commissioners as being a good spot due to it being close to the Police station. The commissioners

Lisa made a motion to approve this item, Lauren seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

David Hoyt stated he thinks there are items overlooked in terms of landscaping and biodiversity. He spoke of organizations that promote biodiversity and landscaping practices that address climate change and pollution control. He provided a link to the National Wildlife Federation for more information that can be used to educate residents about this issue as well. There is a certification process that he recommended which has goals for the community to reach.

Adoption of meeting minutes

Approved

Commissioner Reports

Susan Charrette spoke about a PlanItGreen meeting where they discussed energy metrics and the thread of equity is now the focus. The Oak Park climate action plan was adopted as a part

of the goals going forward. There were several other items discussed at the meeting that Susan brought up as well. The community garden was also brought up to let the group know that residents can now sign up in March to have a plot in the community gardens. The Comed Openlands grant will also be applied for as a part of the parkway for pollinators program.

Eric Simon shared his screen and spoke about community solar for Illinois communities program. It is a program that allows people to get solar energy even if they do not have a rooftop that is conducive to solar energy. The Metropolitan Mayor's Caucus is the lead agency for this program and several municipalities in the area currently participate. The program would have to be approved by the Village Board. There would not be any financial impact to provide the community solar options to residents. Commissioners brought up the point about the possible differences between the municipal aggregation program and the community solar program.

Lauren spoke about the waste reduction efforts for Earth Day and will provide more information to residents about this issue. She said that the video application Flipgrid to share videos amongst residents for waste reduction. These videos would then be shared with the rest of the community through a weblink through the website and Enews items.

Meatless Mondays and Meat free Fridays

Ellie provided an overview of the Meatless Mondays campaign which would be promoted at local restaurants. This is a topic that is planned to begin in April and there is a desire to present this to the Village Board or get the approval of the Village to promote this campaign. This is a promotion of a plant based diet that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Updating the VRF Strategic Plan

Lisa shared her screen which showed the details of the differences between the climate action plan versus a sustainability plan. She explained that there are key differences, but that the two can be complimentary. Many details of the items that are included in the strategic plan were highlighted including the energy reduction goals that will be offset as a result of the community aggregation program.

Schedule Next Meeting - April 13, 2021

Meeting Adjourned at 9:07pm

Respectfully Submitted:

Signature Line

John Anderson, Secretary

Signature Line

Lisa Gillis, Chairman
Sustainability Commission

Date: -----