



VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

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

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: 826 5559 7806 or by clicking here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82655597806> If you would like to speak during public comment, please email janderson@vrf.us by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, July 13, 2021.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes
4. Commissioner Reports
5. Solid Waste Discussion with Strom/Lake Shore Recycling
6. Other Business
7. Schedule Next Meeting – August 17, 2021
8. Adjournment



VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday June 8, 2021 – 7:00 PM

Call to Order/Roll Call

Eric Simon
Beth Cheng
Cary McLean
Susan Charrette
Luke Gilfillan
Charles Roeger
Lisa Gillis

No Public Comment

Meeting Minutes

Beth said that the last sentence in the community education section can be removed.

Commissioner Reports

Eric spoke about the transition to himself as the new chairperson for the commission. He said that Lisa Gillis will continue to be a part of the group as the Trustee liaison to the commission. Eric said that he appreciates this since it provides a nice connection to the Village Board due to all of the issues the commissions deal with on a regular basis. He said that he will reach out to commissioners to get a better handle on all of the issues that other commissioners are working on and will continue to be working on.

Beth said that she has been in touch with Ellie and Charles on the Tree Trails 2.0 idea that was discussed at the last meeting. She said that there is interest in working with the Park District on this project. Nick Tyra is a graphic designer that

Susan attended the PlanItGreen meeting and stated that there were interesting items learned such as the fact that \$10,000 per month is earned by Oak Park for their plastic bag tax. She spoke about several other topics learned such as Concordia purchasing RECs for their energy usage. The National Wildlife Foundation is working with Roosevelt School to be categorized as a school yard habitat. Lincoln School has a certified schoolyard habitat and Susan was able to visit this location.

Cary said that the block with the most healthy family/healthy lawn blocks would be recognized in the local newspaper. She is going to try to reach out to each of the participants on the list to

see if they are still participating so they can be included in this recognition. Cary is not sure what to do with the Veg Out program. There are participants, but she is not sure how much further to go with this particular program. There was a discussion with the group about how to balance the workload of the various topics and programs and not get too overwhelmed. There were various ideas to take on the workload including possibly getting a commissioner with a marketing focus and/or getting an Americore intern.

Eric spoke about the MMC receiving a grant for another SolSmart initiative which would allow us to try to achieve silver SolSmart status. This would allow the application process to be easier for residents seeking solar installation. There are four different bills in Springfield related to energy under consideration by the general assembly.

Solid Waste Survey

It was determined that the commission would like to speak with Strom/LRS at the next commission meeting to answer questions related to sustainability items related to solid waste disposal.

Community Solar Update

This is something that will have to be passed by the Village Board in order to be a part of community solar. This is something that will need to be marketed in the future. There is a direct mailer for this program that goes through MC squared. There are several communities that have already taken these steps that we will be able to use as a template. We will need to be able to communicate the difference between aggregation and community solar in the future. The timing on when this needs to be sent out to residents after it is approved by the Village Board was discussed as well. There is an initial "first mover" group that will receive the current rate pricing for the entire group.

River Forest Tree Ordinance

This ordinance was explained by John who stated that this ordinance is something that is for larger developments where trees are removed and replaced in kind or a fee is paid in lieu of new plantings.

There was also a discussion about if the meetings should continue virtually or in person for future meetings.

Schedule Next Meeting - July 13, 2021

Adjournment at 8:30pm

Respectfully Submitted:

Signature Line

John Anderson, Secretary

Signature Line

Lisa Gillis, Chairman
Sustainability Commission

Date: -----