

**VILLAGE OF GURNEE
MINUTES
Environmental Sustainability Committee**

DATE: November 1, 2022 (Tuesday)

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

PLACE: Zoom Call

a. Call to Order and Roll Call

- a. Chairman Rick Osa called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.
- b. Roll Call: Lucie Bedner, Shelley Lazarus, Kaitlyn Boynett
- c. Other Officials in Attendance: Austin Pollack, Assistant to the Village Administrator
- d. Public in Attendance: Maxine Elloian and John Aldrin

b. Approval of October 4, 2022 Meeting Minutes

- a. Shelley stated that she would like to amend the minutes so it states that it was brought up to replace her on the styrofoam events and that Lucie will be her replacement.

Minutes were approved with that amendment.

c. Public Comment

No comment

d. New Business

- a. Chicago Area Clean Cities Annual Awards Nominations—Aspirational Goal

Rick showed the group the Greenline newsletter and articles regarding the Chicago Area Clean Cities Annual Awards, the Metro Mayor's Caucus EV Readiness Program, and more. Rick stated the he sees a lot of their activity as something that we can learn from and keep an eye on.

e. Discussion Items

- a. Green Business Award Program

- i. Status

- (i) Review/discuss Gurnee Mills nomination

- Shelley was concerned with their nomination and had a few follow-up questions:

- 1. Who is offering email receipts? Is everyone providing the option?
 2. How many number of recycling stations for bottles and cans do you have?
 3. Who has eliminated the use of Styrofoam?
 4. Who has eliminated plastic bags?
 5. How extensive is the use of energy efficient appliances, lightbulbs, and low flow fixtures?
 6. How many fuel efficient vehicles do you have? How are they energy efficient?
 7. What recycled materials do you use, sell, or purchase? How much?

8. What environmental sustainability events have you held?
9. Could you provide some explanation of the cooking oil IEM sustainable certification?

Austin stated that he could send them an email and there has been no other nominations at this point.

ii. Publicity

Austin added that the Village has done a lot in terms of publicity and has done as much as they can do with the exception of a press release. He stated that is normal to not have many nominations for the first year, but if we get a few that would be a success.

Shelley stated there are additional pages. Austin explained that he cannot share to the groups personally, but Shelley stated that she could share it with Facebook groups once it is tweaked. Rick asked about the Chamber resources and Austin stated that we have a lot of the contacts that they have.

iii. Gurnee Business Partners Letter

iv. Recognition, awards

- (i) Draft mayor's testimonial

v. Schedule

Rick stated that a letter has been drafted and it is anticipated to come from his signature. Austin said that he plans to send it out towards the end of the week and the plan is to have the letter come from Rick with the Mayor being involved in the actual giving of the award.

b. Pumpkin Composting Event – November 5th

Rick stated that the Pumpkin Composting is 9am to noon this Saturday at the Village Hall. Shelley stated she will not be there. Rick stated that he will be there and get pictures. Lucie will not be there as well, but will provide volunteers through various high school clubs.

c. Greenest Region Compact – status

i. Electrification of municipal vehicle fleet

Austin added that the Village is looking at possibly getting one or two electric vehicles. The involvement in the EV Consortium will take some investment and commitment and he has passed that off to the Village Administrator. Rick mentioned that little investments help and that the price of items such as an electric school bus is about 10x the cost of a diesel school bus.

ii. Greenhouse gas reporting of Village Service Providers

Rick stated he hasn't done much research into this. Rick stated that the required reading for this week is an article regarding wax worm saliva breakdown of plastic bags.

Rick asked John if he is still looking at getting an Ethylene Oxide analyzer. John said that he can't officially say anything but there is -- that they got it. He talked to Mayor Hood and he wants more information. The plan is to build a mobile station and there is involvement from various professors. He says that he has a couple of questions for the Mayor and the town, but once it goes through, there will be a lot of discussion. John asked who should he send the email to regarding it. Austin stated that he could send it to the Mayor and cc' him. John explained that their plan is to do more

mobile testing and there more information to come.

Shelley asked if anyone has had a chance to look at the teracycle website and explained her ideas to recycle other items around the Village. Austin mentioned that SWALCO recycles batteries, but he is not exactly sure what kind. Shelley asked if people can take a look at the link and look into it.

Maxine asked about creating a Facebook and Instagram page for the Environmental Sustainability Committee. Austin stated that he advises not to because the group is part of the Village, but stated that he could share ideas or ads that she had and that directing people to the Environmental Sustainability's webpage or the Village website is fine.

f. Adjournment

Rick made a motion to adjourn. Additional committee members second it and the meeting was adjourned.