

**Village of Gurnee
Environmental Sustainability Committee
Agenda**

DATE: February 6, 2023

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

**PLACE: Conference Room A at the Gurnee Village Hall located at
325 N. O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee IL**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- a) Karen called the meeting to order at approximately 3:32 p.m.
- b) Roll Call: Chair Karen Thorstenson, Dan Helgren, Meg Beckley, Steve Heroux and Brian Penticoff
- c) Other Officials in Attendance: Austin Pollack, Assistant to the Village Administrator
- d) Public in Attendance: Anya Polanski

2. Approval of the December 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Dan made motion to approve it, Meg made a motion to second it. The minutes were approved.

3. New Business

There were no new business items.

4. Discussion Items

A. WTHS Presentation Recap

Karen said it was a good attendance and there were a lot of good questions, and Austin and her presented on the committees' activities. Anya said it was well received. Karen said a few questions came up and Austin stated that the main question was the battery question.

Austin stated that he sent an email to Mr. Boncher letting him know that AA, AAA, C, D, 9 volts and different zinc batteries can be thrown in the trash. However the other ones should be taken to SWALCO hazardous waste.

B. Warren Township Recycling Event

Karen stated that she contacted Warren Township as a result of the WTHS presentation inquiring if they were going to have any large scale recycling events. She stated that they are thinking of having one, but have not discussed any details.

C. SWALCO Updates

Austin stated that Walter Willis from the SWALCO came to present as SWALCO serves as the coordinating arm for solid waste and recycling matters in the region. Austin informed the group on the organization's structure and stated that MRF (Material Recovering Facility) project, which use to receive rebates and revenue share from recycling facilities has gone away and they are working on setting a fixed tipping fee for funding SWALCO partially and trying to get a check from

dedicating our recyclables to one company. He stated that WM will close the Grayslake landfill and the county and SWALCO are trying building a tipping station there. He also mentioned that the members vote on legislation.

He provided an update on the programs that the old sharps kiosk as free be from WM will be going away and the Village will be getting a new sharps kiosk through the State grant. He also stated the that clothing and textile recycling program bin at the fire station is the number one in the county at receiving approximately 56,000 pounds to be recycled.

D. Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) Contract

Austin stated that Village issued an RFP for the Residential Waste and Recycling Franchise agreement. He stated that Waste Management, Groot Industries, and Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) all provided a bid and Lakeshore came in with the lowest pricing. Waste Management bidded really high prices and did not provide a bid or cost for leaf vac. Groot was slightly more expensive than LRS. He stated that a resident's bill will increase \$77 to \$115 on an annual basis. He also stated that he is working on getting account information narrowed down and that he will begin working on a communications plan.

Austin stated that Lakeshore Recycling Systems also offered recycling facility tours on certain days, but he will work on getting those dates narrowed down as we get closer to the transition.

E. Hefty ReNew Bag Program Anticipated Launch

Austin stated that LRS is anticipating to launch the Hefty ReNew Bag Program in the spring of 2025 where a resident can put an orange plastic bags and all other films into the Hefty bag along with styrofoam, and other plastic wrap like pet food bags, chip bags, candy wrappers, etc. into their recycling.

F. Recycling Events Planning

The group planned two recycling events for this spring. The Styrofoam event for Saturday, April 20th from 10am to 1pm at the Public Works Facility. The shred and paper recycling event for Saturday, April 27th from 10am to 1pm and Karen stated that she would reach out to the high school for hosting.

Steve offered a tour of the Prairie Crossing School and Karen stated that may be better for the summer.

Austin also stated that CLCJAWA is also offering tours but since LRS offered first that the group could do that tour at a later date.

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned approximately 1 hour after the start at 4:35pm.