

**Village of Gurnee
Environmental Sustainability Committee
Minutes**

DATE: March 5, 2024

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 3:30 p.m.
- B. Roll Call: Chair Karen Thorstenson, Dan Helgren, Meg Beckley, Rebecca Adler, 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 February 6, 2024 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. Earth Day/Month News and E-blast

Austin stated that Karen shared with him Lake Forest's Earth Day news and that he liked the idea and they both thought to put together an Earth Day news item on the Village's website and then share on social media.

Rebecca asked when it needed to be out to residents. Austin stated that it needed to be out by the beginning of April, so he planned on having it finished around then.

Karen stated that it could be featured on the Keep Gurnee Clean Facebook page.

B. Keeping Posted

Austin reviewed the Spring Keeping Posted and he went over the sustainability items: the Gurnee Recycling and Safe Disposal Guide, the Making Gurnee Greener and the recycling events.

C. LRS Update

Austin mentioned that LRS offered for a recycling plant tour and he is thinking that he will ask them about it for maybe a May or June facility tour date. He also mentioned that LRS is a very good company in terms of sustainability as they plan to launch the hefty renew bag program in the Spring of 2025.

Austin reviewed aspects of the new contract and discussed the purpose of a franchise hauling agreement.

D. Status of MECS Initiative

Anya stated that MECs group has some upcoming projects and will be making posters and launching some projects. She stated that MECs is partnering with the Village on the upcoming recycling events and are looking at getting a grant for a farming area as well as getting some recycling bins.

E. Green Gurnee Award

Austin stated that him and Karen have been discussing possibly lowering the point threshold to make it easier for businesses to obtain. He stated that there isn't much benefit towards a business from a monetary standpoint except marketing from the Village.

Steve asked where exactly is the criteria and Austin stated that is on the website in the Green Gurnee Award section.

Meg asked what is the free recycling program and Austin said that the Village offers free recycling for businesses up to a certain amount.

Steve asked what exactly is the green energy program and Austin explained that probably all businesses either through Green Energy Program or ComEd obtains some renewable energy.

The group discussed other options for businesses to accumulate points and Austin discussed Fastlane Lube Masters as an example.

Brian suggested putting the Green Gurnee Award information in the Earth Month publication.

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34pm.