

**Village of Gurnee
Environmental Sustainability Committee
Meeting Minutes**

DATE: May 2, 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. Mayor's Introduction

a. New Committee

The Mayor welcomed everyone and provided a brief history of the ESC committee and outlined the role of the committee. He mentioned activities that the committee has done and how the future of the committee will function.

2. Call to Order and Roll Call

- a. Chairman Rick Osa called the meeting to order at 3:39 p.m.
- b. Roll Call: Rick Osa and Shelley Lazarus
- c. Other Officials in Attendance: Austin Pollack, Assistant to the Village Administrator and Thomas Hood, Mayor of Gurnee
- d. Public in Attendance: Brain Penticoff, Morgan Culver, Rebecca Adler, Karen Thorstenson, and Dan Helgren

3. Approval of April 4, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Shelley made a motion to approve, Rick second it. A vote was taken and the minutes passed.

4. New Business

a. Introductions

Everyone went around and introduced themselves, stating their background and experience.

b. ESC/Greenest Region Compact Presentation

Karen presented on the background of the Environmental Sustainability Committee, the Greenest Region Compact, and Village and Committee environmental accomplishments.

She distributed a handout to help the group identify the top 5 goal areas of the committee's future efforts. She also shared other communities' plans and efforts that the committee could use as examples.

Austin and Rick also shared various examples of how the committee could look at other communities' efforts.

5. Discussion Items

a. Upcoming Recycling Events

- i. Electronics Recycling at Gurnee Public Works Facility located at 1151 Kilbourne Road on Friday, June 16, 10:00am to 5:30pm

Rick shared the value of the electronics recycling event to the community, how it works and the need for volunteers.

c. Green Business Award Program

Rick stated that the CLC Advance Technology Campus has put together a draft nomination and they will eventually put together a formal nomination.

Rick asked Shelley about the Timothy O'Tooles nomination and she stated that she has been trying to get a hold of the owner. She explained why she believes their operations would qualify as sustainable efforts and a possible award.

Rick asked Austin if he got any additional applications. Austin stated that he did not.

c. Styrofoam Recap

Shelley stated that she is looking for a warmer day and that she would like to take over the scheduling of the event. Austin agreed that both of those are ideal.

d. Amsti Recycling

Rick stated that Ann from Amsti, a Gurnee resident, reached out to him as her company has a machine that recycles Styrofoam. Rick stated that he will coordinate passing this information along to the committee.

e. Eto Analyzer

Shelley brought up that the Eto representative was set to bring in a analyzer to the Village. Rick stated the individual plans to have ready in the fall.

f. Environmental News and "Trash Talk"

Rick stated various environmental news articles and how a program that his colleague came up with called "Trash Talk" could help educate the youth in the community. Rick said that he would look into it and pass along the information.

g. Identifying Environmental Issues Important to Committee Members

Karen mentioned the idea of an adopt a road program and Morgan added that she is part of the Gurnee Youth Leadership Initiative and was looking to get her group and possibly the high school involved in something like that.

Rebecca added that her area of interest is reducing pesticide use.

Rebecca also asked how the group communicates between meetings. Austin explained that it is difficult because this group is governed by the Open Meetings Act, so the members cannot be communicating on a communication channel between meetings. He stated that you have to essentially save your ideas for the meetings.

Austin, Rick, and Karen discussed how the mapping out of the Greenest Region objectives will work. Individuals asked various questions on how the connection between topics and specific actions will be carried out.

6. Adjournment

Rick made a motion to adjourn, Shelley second it. A vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned.

