

**Village of Gurnee
Environmental Sustainability Committee
Minutes**

DATE: February 4, 2025

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

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

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- A. Karen called the meeting to order at approximately 3:35 p.m.
- B. Roll Call: Chair Karen Thorstenson, Meg Beckley, Matt Beckley, Anya Polanski and Zoe Zweifelhofer.
- C. Officials in Attendance: Austin Pollack, Assistant to the Village Administrator

2. Approval of the November 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Meg made a motion to approve the minutes and Matt made a motion to second it. The group approved the minutes.

3. New Business

There were no new business items.

4. Discussion Items

A. 2024 ESC Recycling Events

Austin discussed the schedule and informed the group that if they would like to proceed with events for the spring that he would have to get them coordinated and in the newsletter. Karen mentioned that Warren Township is doing a shred event at the beginning of March. The group decided to proceed with scheduling both the Styrofoam and the paper shredding recycling events for April.

Anya asked about creating a sign and Karen said that giving out flyers in the past has worked well. The group seemed to come to a consensus that flyers will be continued.

B. Earth Day Planning

Austin asked if the group had an ideas for earth day planning. Meg stated that she had quite a few ideas from the national forest foundation and Austin said that she can feel free to send them to him. Mag asked if the Village would be willing to supply garbage bags and equipment to groups assisting in the cleanup effort.

C. EtO Fenceline Testing Bill

Austin stated that the Mayor with Representative Mayfield is initiating and currently drafting a bill to require fenceline testing around non-sterilizer facilities such as Vantage.

D. LRS Recycling Feedback

Austin said that he requested a detailed recycling report from LRS and he is hopeful that he will get something by the next meeting. He stated that the issues that LRS Route Managers seem to be seeing in the community are bagging recyclables, Styrofoam in recycling bins and things that are just not allowed to be recycled. He stated that we provide education for residents and further communication will be sent out by the Village to help residents understand this. He also talked about Recycle Coach and showed the group how the application functions.

E. Hefty ReNew Orange Bag Program

Meg asked for an update on the Hefty ReNew Orange Bag Program. Austin stated that residents can still get free samples and that Gurnee has significantly outpaced every other municipality in launching the program by far as Gurnee had 350 samples requested and given out and second most was Lake Villa at 133 and then there was a significant dropoff.

Meg and Karen mentioned the need for a Styrofoam recycling event and stated that it provides an opportunity to continue to market the orange bag

Karen shared some information on the Greenest Region Compact and provided a brief synopsis on the Village's progress against it. She mentioned how her, members from the ESC and staff will visit Great Wolf Lodge to talk them about the Green Gurnee Award.

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25pm.