



Minutes • Tuesday, April 12, 2016 • 6:15 PM  
Robert Gilliam Municipal Complex, City Hall  
Second Floor South Conference Room  
150 Dexter Ct., Elgin, IL 60120

**A. Call to order (chairperson)**

**B. Roll Call (staff liaison)**

**C. Approval of previous meeting's minutes**

Chairperson Knoerr, Commissioners Aagesen, Hajek, Hernandez, Jacobs, Keare, Masterson, and Segel present.

**D. Communications**

**1. Sustainability Honor Roll**

***Mayor Kaptain presents award to Multifilm Packaging Corporation***

Mayor Kaptain explained the achievements of Multifilm and the honor it is to have an Elgin business make so many efforts in sustainability. Mayor Kaptain then presented Dave Rohrschneider, plant manager and one of the owners, with the award. Mr. Rohrschneider explain the company's involvement in sustainability and the return on investment it has provided the business.

**E. Discussion Items**

**1. Fox Valley Sustainability Network**

***Liaison & commissioners Hajek and Segel to report on launch meeting and discuss option to sponsor network***

Commissioner Hajek and the liaison briefed the commission on the Fox Valley Sustainability Network launch meeting, as well as the opportunity for sponsorship and commission involvement. The group plans to host meetings every other month. Commissioners showed interest and asked to be included in invites via email. Each commissioner hopes to attend one meeting in the next year, and continue conversations related to collaboration and support.

**2. Enviroscares**

***Discuss opportunity to contribute to purchase of an enviroscape model to be used at city and city-sponsored events***

The liaison informed the commission that the city's contracted stormwater management company, Baxter & Woodman, is willing to put \$500 of their contract fee towards the purchase of an enviroscape model. The commission discussed the different model options available. Commissioner Keare motioned to purchase the Watershed/Nonpoint source model, with the commission paying the balance, less the \$500 allocated from Baxter & Woodman. The motion was passed.

### 3. Recycling Magnets

***Discuss opportunity to purchase or contribute to purchase of recycling magnets to be mailed to residents***

The commission requested the liaison find out the percentage of customers/residents that receive their water bill online in comparison to by mail. The commission wishes to find out more details on glass recycling. The commission would like to partner with Waste Management a magnet & hand out to be given to residents that continue to receive with cart hangers for contaminated recycling. The commission passed a motion to table the discussion until the May meeting, when the discussion can happen with Waste Management. The liaison will look into cost breakdown.

## F. Old Business

### 1. Solar ordinance

***Continued discussion on suggested amendments to the City of Elgin's current solar ordinance.***

The commission reviewed content of flyers created by Commissioner Jacobs for solar promotion. Commissioner Hajek suggested having realtors hand out flyers to older homes, but a different version of the flyer. Liaison will follow up with staff regarding suggested ordinance modifications. Liaison will also touch base with resident Paige Fitton to see how the Solar Social went.

### 2. Partners for Places grant proposal

***Continued discussion on project idea, requirements, and timeline.***

The previous idea to install solar panels on the Centre has been dissolved due to gathered information. The Centre would need a new roof in order to install solar. In addition, flat roofs are not ideal due to pull of wind on panels. Other ideas were suggested. A small geothermal system would be a feasible option for Hawthorne Hill Nature Center. Commissioner Hernandez suggested the commission pursue a pilot program where households donate organic waste to a group, for example Elgin Community Garden Network, for use in gardens. It was suggested that Kane County in partnership with the University of Illinois connection, sells compost bins, and it might be worth looking into. The commission will continue to explore ideas.

## G. Commissioner comments/announcements

***Sustainability Expo- April 20 Commissioners agreed to attend the event and volunteer at the commission's table at various times throughout the day***

***Earth Day Celebration- April 22***

***Friends of the Fox River Cleanup Day- April 23***

## H. Adjourn

The City of Elgin is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities, are requested to contact ADA coordinator, at (847) 931-6076, or TTY/TDD (847) 931-5616 promptly to allow the City of Elgin to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.