



Minutes • Tuesday, April 11, 2017 • 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)

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

C. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

March 2017 meeting minutes were approved.

D. Communications

1. Sustainability Honor Roll

Mayor Kaptain presents award to Advocate Sherman Hospital

E. Discussion Items

1. Greenest Region Compact 2 Endorsement

Review GRC2 and decide whether or not to move an endorsement forward to City Council

There's no cost to participate. The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus is looking for an endorsement. It can be considered for future framing of Elgin's action plan changes. The bigger the geographic area we can connect and move forward in the right direction, the stronger and more networked we are. We can learn from each other and accomplish goals together. It's another networking opportunity similar to the Fox Valley Sustainability Network. Commissioner Aagesen motioned to recommend Council adopt the endorsement of the Greenest Region Compact 2.

2. Trip to Freedom Field

Discuss organizing summer trip to Freedom Field open to the public

June 24 or July 22 would be good dates. Commissioner Masterson will check with Chet to confirm a date. Liaison will check on cost of the bus rental/trip and report to Commissioner Hajek.

F. Old Business

1. Sustainability Action Plan Update

Review objectives to tackle suggested by commissioners and narrow down list

Commission will work in pairs to research some topics of interest as they relate the action plan and objectives not yet achieved as follows:

- Commissioners Aagesen and Alvarez – multifamily recycling
- Liaison and Commissioners Keare and Segel – solar
- Commissioners Hajek and Chairperson Knoerr – gardens in front yard/side yard, and community gardens
- Commissioners Aagesen and Masterson – solar for schools
- Commissioners Alvarez and Hajek - analyze city code and what needs to be changed as well as look at potential text changes to ordinances.

Groups will send over research to Commissioner Hajek to review how ideas could be impacted by municipal code. Commissioner Alvarez can be a resource for building code.

2. Backyard Chickens

Liaison to provide overall update on program and get feedback regarding expansion

The commission requested a report on calls/complaints to see if there's been any issues with the program. There is currently a waitlist of about 20 interested residents, and if no issues with the program, it should be expanded. Ten additional licenses were added last year, and the group should evaluate how many additional could be added to the ordinance, or if a limit is necessary.

3. Rain Barrel Sales

Update on Rain Barrels sold and commitment for subsidies, set up potential pickup event

Liaison provided update to number of rain barrels sold. A pickup event around Earth Day would be ideal for 2018. Liaison will look in to options to host presentations for Conservation@Home and Conservation@Work.

G. Commissioner comments/announcements

1. **MetroFarms Tour on Tuesday, April 18**
2. **GreenTown Conference on Thursday, April 27**
3. **Earth Day Celebration – determine who will help with set up and who will attend and cover Sustainability Commission table**

H. Adjourn

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