



Minutes • Tuesday, September 11, 2018 • 6:00 p.m.
Robert Gilliam Municipal Complex, City Hall
Second Floor South Conference Room
150 Dexter Court, Elgin, IL 60120

A. Call to order (chairperson)

B. Roll Call (staff liaison)

Chairperson Aagesen and Commissioners Anderson, Corie, and Kroiss present.

C. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

August meeting minutes were approved.

D. Other persons present

-Lashaunda Jordan, representing the Boys and Girls Club of Elgin (BGCE), wishes to bridge the gap between the organization and the commission. BGCE would like to help bring Xiuhtezcatl Martinez to Elgin, as this type of speaker could have dialogue with the youth and teens.

-Deb Perryman of Elgin High School present.

-Winfried Cooper from the Elgin Human Relations Commission present.

-Chairperson Aagesen provided Danielle Henson's (of Gail Borden Public Library) email providing GBPL's interest in partnering for Earth Day and other sustainability programming options. She also provided an email from Phil Mungai supporting the proposal to bring Xiuhtezcatl Martinez to Elgin.

-Former Commissioner David Segel was present and noted the Elgin Math and Science Academy (EMSA) is incorporating sustainability into their lessons. He also voiced his support for Friends of the Fox.

E. Working Groups and Task-Related updates

Provide updates and discuss goals related to Individual Commissioner Engagement Plans.

-Chairperson Aagesen brought up the straw initiative and all were in favor of moving this item forward. The discussion will continue with a working group. Vaughn Kuerschner of Waste Management is providing educational materials to Multi-family units that they currently service.

-Commissioner Kroiss gave an overview of this Individual Engagement Plan. Kroiss wants to help build and develop a citywide asset map. He will be meeting with Dan Rich of the City's IT department in November.

-Commissioner Corie has been researching electricity and believes that Elgin is paying more for brown energy. The liaison updated Corie on work the City is pursuing with Consultant Mark Pruitt in regards to energy. Liaison will reach out the Director of Neighborhood Services to try to connect Corie to in order to provide input on the process.

-Commissioner Anderson has met with The Conservation Foundation, the U46 Foundation as well as the Parks and Recreation Foundation, and the Boys and Girls Club of Elgin. In order to provide funding for the Mighty Acorns Programming in collaboration with Hillcrest School, he is working to develop a sustainable funding stream by getting the U46 Foundation on board with a Giving Tuesday campaign. Anderson would like to work with the Parks and Recreation Foundation to hold a restricted account for the nature center that could be funded by the Sustainability Awards fundraiser. As for Friends of the Fox River (FOFR), Anderson has met with representatives and discussed sustainable funding. Anderson also met with their membership committee and they are taking him up on offers to rewire their membership program, which

should help generate dollars. He has also offered to help with goal planning as well as with the Giving Tuesday campaign. The Earth Day Planning Committee will meet in October at the GBPL. The Solar work group is set for October 1 at the GBPL. Anderson spoke to Maria Cumpata of the City's Parks and Recreation Department about the solar on the property at 600 S. State, and potentially placing panels that could produce energy for the sports complex lights. He wondered if the state would consider knocking down the power plant and installing a community solar site.

F. Discussion Items

1. Waste and Water Working Groups

Discuss creation of additional working groups to oversee applicable initiatives.

Anderson motioned to create a water work group with the objective of identifying goals, objectives and tactics within Elgin's Sustainability Action Plan that should be worked on now and then to subsequently provide volunteers to put to work. A second motion was made to create a waste work group with the objective of identifying goals, objectives and tactics within Elgin's Sustainability Action Plan that should be worked on now and then to subsequently provide volunteers to put to work. Both motions passed. Anderson stressed the importance of volunteer recruitment and the time commitment needed to do so. Chairperson Aagesen will reach out to Commissioner Miko to see if he is interested in leading the water group. Aagesen suggested a volunteer recruitment strategy to the October meeting agenda.

2. Call with Rebecca Buel of Big Speak

Discuss opportunity to have Xiuhtezcatl Martinez provide a keynote speech for Earth Day 2019.

Martinez has only been part of Speakers Bureau the last year. The fee structure fluctuates, but with \$7500 on the low end, plus travel, accommodations and meals. Commissioner Corie was not interested in bringing Martinez in with that price point. Others present provided input.

Mr. Cooper said his personal opinion was that the cost was too high for the timeframe. He suggested reaching out to find a panel of environmental teachers, perhaps from ECC. Commissioner Corie suggested reaching out to schools and having them nominate students that have leadership abilities and audition them to speak. Other options would be the Youth Leadership Academy and BGCE. Ms. Perryman suggested many of those kids may already be busy with the U46 talent fest that takes place around the same time as Earth Day. Anderson mentioned that greatly impacted, many groups are under-represented in the sustainability field. The youth are the next generation and Martinez, being young, changes the equation and strives to empower the youth. Anderson would like to find a speaker with that type of dynamic. Anderson asked who would be willing to seek out other speakers bureau, schools, etc. Corie volunteered to reach out to Judson and explore other options in the Chicagoland area. Chairperson Aagesen asked for an update by October 1, so followup questions can be provided. Mr. Cooper offered to reach out of the forest preserves. Ms. Jordan suggested that universities and bigger colleges may be better to look at rather than local schools to speak to the under-represented communities.

G. Old Business

1. Sustainability Survey

Liaison will close survey and send results to commission for review.

Liaison provided update that survey is closed with 327 responses. She has exported the results and placed in the commission's shared folder.

2. Budget Discussion

Finalize budget for fiscal year 2019 resolutions.

Anderson offered an amendment on Article Five, Number Nine. Anderson will send amendment to liaison who will send it out to commission to review for next meeting.

3. Commissioner Recruitment and Ordinance

Discuss recommendations and feedback to provide City Clerk on ordinance changes, recruitment and resource packets.

Agesen will draft a feedback form response based on commissioner feedback. The commission will provide any concerns by October 1. Commission should send application question ideas to the liaison to distribute.

4. Events

Discuss Pumpkin Composting Event on November 3 and Sustainability Brunch for 2019.

Liaison will create tabloid size posters and handouts by September 26. Anderson suggested that as commissioners engage different organizations, they should try to find a partner to pass this event onto.

H. Commissioner comments/announcements

-Sustainability Honor Roll award presentation to take place at October 10 7:00 p.m. City Council meeting.

I. 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.