



Minutes • Tuesday, May 14, 2019 • 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 Armstrong, Biss, Kessuvan, McMullen (Perryman) and Miko are present.

C. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

April 2019 meeting minutes were approved.

D. Public Comment

Robin Migalla, Kendra Kroiss and Tim Solarz present. Tim Solarz who serves on the Solar Work Group introduced the recently formed Elgin Area Men's Shed, a nonprofit organization promoting health, social and volunteer activities for retired senior men to stay engaged with their communities. The organization is requesting space at the commission's booth at the Farmers Market.

E. Working Groups and Task-Related updates

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

-Commissioner Miko will be scheduling a walk along Poplar Creek.

-Commissioner Anderson announced the City of Elgin's Silver Solsmart designation. He is having a potluck for the Elgin Earth Month committee members.

-Commissioner Armstrong met with Mr. Brosier on the Project Quercus, which educates people on the value of oak trees and commits to planting hundreds of oak trees every year.

-Chairperson Aagesen updated the group that the Downtown Neighborhood Association sent out a memo to downtown businesses regarding the straw project and they have not received any responses. She will continue working with and supporting the Larsen Middle School initiative. Aagesen also met with liaison to discuss Waste Management contract.

-Commissioner McMullen is working to have U-46 budget for natural habitat creation.

-Commissioner Kroiss has looked at layers including solar locations and bike lanes and is preparing to test asset mapping.

-Commissioner Biss wants to get more involved in the waste group.

F. Discussion Items

1. Sustainability Award Event

Hear update from committee and assign tasks to commissioners.

Chairperson Aagesen updated the commission on the event status. She needs any commissioners attending to arrive early to help with set up. Handout items are needed for the commission table, including flyers for the Solar Power Hour, annual reports, easels, chicken and beekeeping brochures and any other appropriate materials. Rain barrel winners will be announced and they can pick up rain barrels from the Centre. If someone doesn't want their rain barrel, we can donate it to an organization that would find it useful. Liaison will create a redirect for the installation video.

2. Elgin Farmers Market

Discuss commissioner and work group availability for dates.

The commission looked at available farmers market dates and associated themes. The commission booth/table will be used to share information of work groups as follows:

- Citizens Utility Board (CUB) Solarize Group Buy program – June 7th & July 5th
- Bicycle & Mobility Workgroup – June 14th & July 26th
- Waste Workgroup – September 6th
- School District U-46 Sustainability Curriculum initiative – August 16th
- Water Workgroup – July 12th
- Elgin Area Men’s Shed – September 27th
- Solar Workgroup – June 21st & September 13th

3. EnergySage Online Solar Marketplace

Hear update on recent discussions and determine next steps.

Commissioner Anderson provided an overview EnergySage, an online platform for people to find information and it also has a marketplace with vetted solar installers. He shared that the solar work group is generally interested and he would like for the commission to send the work group any questions to look into.

4. Solar Work Group

Determine future of work group: refocus or disband.

Anderson updated the commission on the work group’s duties and achievements. He provided a one-page work plan. This item was tabled until next month.

5. 2020 Budget

Determine date for special budget meeting.

The commission agreed to meet on Saturday, July 27 from 9 a.m. to noon should an extra meeting be needed.

G. Old Business

H. Commissioner comments/announcements

I. Adjourn

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