



Minutes • Tuesday, June 11, 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 Agesen and Commissioners Anderson, Armstrong, Biss, Kenney, Kessuvan, McMullen (Perryman) and Miko are present.

C. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

May 2019 minutes were approved.

D. Public Comment

E. Working Groups and Task-Related updates

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

-Commissioner Kroiss is working to recruit people to his work group.

-Commissioner Miko went to Poplar Creek and examined it in a high flow condition.

-Commissioner Armstrong will be at the Farmers Market for Pollinator week. He plans to go to the U of I agriculture extension and Kane DuPage water conservation district for pollinator garden materials to handout. Armstrong is working on a competitive grant for active transportation with staff and the Downtown Neighborhood Association.

-Commissioner Anderson hosted a critique meeting for Elgin Earth Month. He provided notes to the commission. The Solar Work Group recently met and topics will be discussed later during the meeting.

-Commissioner Kessuvan recruited several volunteers that want to get involved with the youth work group. The group was provided a bed at the Advocate Sherman Hospital community garden that they planted over the weekend. She also contacted the Earth Guardians Group and they are interested in making her work group a crew.

-Commissioner Agesen provided highlights of the Sustey Awards and post-event critique. She was also contacted to see if the commission would like to be involved in the Hunger Summit event. The Waste Work Group has confirmation that Bricks Pizza will not be giving out straws. She is hoping for recycling input from Jennifer Jarland with Kane County Recycles. Agesen discussed the waste contract renewal that is going before council on Wednesday and commission involvement.

-Commissioner McMullen is aligning the U-46 Science Curriculum to the work of the Sustainability Action Plan and the working groups. She has initiated the process to create a Community Science Committee to help in facilitating this plan. As such, McMullen will end up being involved in all of our workgroups at least on the edges, to align the curriculum to the science initiatives taking place in the Elgin community.

-Commissioners Kearney and Biss have not yet developed an Individual Engagement Plan.

F. Discussion Items

1. Solar Work Group

Vote to renew solar workgroup charter as presented in one page plan proposal.

Anderson motioned the commission adopt the one page plan as a guiding document for the Solar Work Group through December 31, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

2. EnergySage Online Solar Marketplace

Vote to support initiative, authorizing Solar Work Group to move forward with marketplace launch and consider funding promotion of marketplace.

If approved, Anderson will create a funding request. \$1/day Facebook ad would run through the end of this year, and a larger campaign of a few thousand dollars would run next year. Miko motioned we would adopt the one page EnergySage plan as long as MOU was approved by the City. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Sustainability Action Plan

Determine timeline and planning model.

Anderson's recommendation is to use the Future Search Model for plan development. It is the closest model to how the original Sustainability Action Plan was created. It adds theory and structure and is considered a whole systems model approach to an organic model. Miko asked about next steps, and Anderson said the next discussion item is to train someone on the Future Search Facilitation. Purchasing books could be a good option as well. In between now and that December training, the commission could have focused discussions. Until training occurs, it may be difficult to determine a timeline. The commission voted to adopt the future search planning model.

4. Funding Requests

Vote on funding requests for 1) Future Search Training; 2) Lords Park School garden; 3) NENA butterfly garden plants.

1) Anderson described the Future Search Training. He would not lead the planning process, but would help support it. In addition, Anderson would also attend but he would pay for his own travel and participation. Anderson motioned the commission fund the cost of sending someone to the training. Aagesen suggested that the person selected should make a formal commitment to stay involved throughout the entire planning process, otherwise be required to pay back a portion of the training and travel expenses. It could be a commissioner or non-commissioner. This person selection can be added to the next meeting's agenda. The motion passed.

2) Anderson suggested tabling this item until the commission knows what other funding requests will be brought to the table. Anderson would like to know what part of the sustainability action plan this request supports. Kroiss would like to see locations of gardens. Biss wonders if the composter will use lunch food scraps. McMullen suggested the project is not part of the grade level curriculum. Miko motioned to table and the commission should give any questions or feedback to Chairperson Aagesen by June 18.

3) A motion was made to also table this item until more proposals can be reviewed during the July meeting. The motion passed.

5. 2020 Budget

Review status of 2019 budget in preparation of 2020 discussions.

The commission reviewed Treasurer Miko's presentation on the budget process and 2019 budget. Commissions should review funding request form online at cityofelgin.org/scfundingrequest and recommend any changes at the next meeting.

G. Old Business

H. Commissioner comments/announcements

I. Adjourn

