



**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Edward Schock Centre of Elgin,**  
**100 Symphony Way, Elgin, IL 60120**

1. Call to Order: 6:01pm
2. **Recognize Persons Present:** Chair Tom Armstrong, Liaison Jan Monell, Commissioners McMullen, Flaherty, Kroiss, Sandy Kaptain, Robin Migalla, Bill Koehl, Susan Swing, Dekovia Livingston, Jean Munz, Paul Berland, Angela Talbert, Rise' Jones.
3. **Meeting Minutes:** Comm. Deb McMullen motioned to approve October 13, 2020, Chris Flaherty seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Future Search Virtual Discussion:** Rise' Jones described how she took the principles and approach of Future Search virtually with Elgin Group Ministries. The process went better with 4 focus groups to condense the focus and simplify the effort. Persons serving need to be identified, elected and recruited should be community stakeholders i.e. businesses, school district, nfp groups. Rise' stressed the goal is to build community advocates vs. adversaries. Comm. McMullen commented that messaging needs to be interlinked w/each work group and action plan and we need to build message/education on outreach opportunities. Chair Armstrong suggested that development of climate action plan, benchmarking, and landing page should be the focus. Councilwoman Rauschenberger want to have the small groups focus on branding, communication messaging. Chair Armstrong wants the commitment of zero CO2 emissions and it's important to have focus groups have knowledgeable and experts in environmental sciences. Flaherty commented that the climate plan needs to be completed and then build momentum off of that. Sandy Kaptain commented that simplify the plans to start by signing onto green energy by 2023, energy efficiency such as solar, and don't wait for government to make the changes vs. individuals. The baseline report is needed for a stepping off point for the Commission to proceed in creating focus groups for Future Search. Comm. Who the Commission chooses to select needs to make a commitment and passion for it. No decisions were made but further discussions on baseline inventory reports and choosing comm. Stakeholders.
5. **Work Group Reports - Programs/Activities/Initiatives**
  - a. **Climate Action**-Paul Berland stressed the urgency to address the climate change and to get a letter out to all residents on City Letterhead addressing the situation immediately. He doesn't want to wait for web landing page or water bill message to be completed. Chair Armstrong discussed that the web link landing page and beta site is important to have ready prior to sending out letters, water bill message etc. so residents have a place to go for more information. He asked Commission to review the climate change letter message and the water bill message. Comm. Kroiss motioned to approve the letter message, Comm. Flaherty seconded, motion unanimously approved. Comm. Flaherty motioned to approve the water bill message, Comm. Seconded, motion passed unanimously.

- b. Green Infrastructure**-Request that WONK complete online financial funding request detailing what projects/programs WONK will be using funds. Commission will need to formally approve request before funds can be distributed. Comm. Flaherty plans on contacting Greg Hulke on the placement of pollinator habitats along Fox River Trail near Hemmens on Rt. 31 or other suitable sites. Soil samples were taken at Lords Park. State of IL has new Milkweed Planting Project.
1. Asset Mapping- Working on GIS mapping together.
  2. Water-Encourage Commissioners to read the web link report on water quality from the EPA. Kane Co. and U-46 are collaborating on storm water swales and flooding issues.
  3. Waste- Hope commissioners found time to watch YouTube videos on plastic waste problem. Comm. Biss will be planning a meeting soon.
  4. Solar- No report
  5. Transportation & Mobility-Bike route 4 phase II and phase III

## 6. Other Business:

Comm. McMullen discussed U-46 how they are focusing on Sustainability by having stakeholders such as Adm. Teachers, students, and alumni be involved in the process. It has been a long endeavor but it is something the ESC could look as a model. Areas of focus indoor air quality, improving operational efficiencies so there is direct increase in cognitive improvements.

Comm. Flaherty encouraged all the commission members to contact your councilperson and mayor to express your support for a full-time Sustainability Officer. The City Council meeting on November 11, 2020 at 5pm will be discussing 2021 Budget and 3 yr. Financial Plan. Send your public comments to Mayor in support of Sustainability Officer by Noon on November 11th.

Commission will need to approve 2021 meeting schedule at December meeting.

Councilwomen Rauschenberger commented that the Commission should work on a report that could be sent to Council to update them on what the Commission has been working on the past year. Chair Armstrong said a possible summary of what the commission has done could be reviewed in front of Council.

7. **Announcements:** Bikeshare program for Elgin is currently on hold while Koloni works out issues with GPS tracking of unreturned bikes. No new purchasing of bikes at this time until the matter is resolved.
8. **Adjournment:** Comm. Kroiss motioned to adjourn at 7:42pm, Comm. Flaherty seconded.