MEETING NOTES
Evanston Environment Board
Thursday, January 9, 2014
7:00 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge, Room #2200

Members Present: Susan Besson, Hugh Bartling, Tom Clark, Samuel Headd, Kevin Glynn

Members Absent: Ellen King, Todd Schwier, Likwan Cheng

Staff: Catherine Hurley, Sustainable Programs Coordinator

Presiding Member/s: Susan Besson

I. CALL TO ORDER – S. Besson called meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

II. APPROVAL of MINUTES from October. Minutes approved.
    T. Clark made a MOTION to approve. K. Glenn SECONDED. All in favor.

III. CITIZEN COMMENT
    Debbie Stone – Cook County Director of Department of Environmental Control
    D. Stone reported that Cook County has adopted a 80% solid waste reduction goal
    and is in the final stages of a Solid Waste and Recycling Ordinance. Her office is
    currently working with some communities on brownfield issues and has been
    active on the planning side of solid waste issues and furthering recycling programs.
    Cook County also has a demolition debris diversion ordinance which has a
    requirement of 70% of building materials to be recycled for commercial projects
    and 5% recycling requirement for residential projects. D. Stone has been working
    with community colleges for workforce training related to demolition waste
    separation and recycling.

    D. Stone stated that the Solid Waste and Recycling Ordinance was pending before
    the Cook County Board and would provide for the inspection of solid waste
    facilities in the County outside of Chicago would allow the county to ticket and fine
    for fly dumping and spills. The Ordinance would also include tracking of solid
    waste going through the county. D. Stone stated that the companies involved in
    hauling waste in the County would have one year to ramp up for compliance. The
    Ordinance before the County Board does include technical tweaks that have been
    made to address the hauler’s concerns. The Ordinance would include fees to help
    fund the inspections but the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County
    (SWANCC), of which Evanston is a member, would be exempt of the fee (set at
    $0.22 per ton).
The Board asked questions including whether there is an economic incentive to recycle and how the construction demolition recycling ordinance has been going. D. Stone stated that fee is collected based on what is tipped minus what they recycle so there is an incentive to recycle. D. Stone stated that for the demolition debris ordinance about 90% of material is being recycled and that the contractors are making a good effort to report their information. S. Besson asked if the City of Evanston was aware of the ordinance? D. Stone said yes and that she had been involved with 2 or 3 trainings for contractors at the Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse regarding the ordinance. D. Stone said she was also working with the Delta Institute and others to dive into the economic benefits. D. Stone thanked the Board for having her to the meeting and left copies of her business card and her office.

IV. STAFF UPDATES (ATTACHMENT)
C. Hurley directed the Board’s attention

V. COMPLETE STREETS ORDINANCE
C. Hurley asked the Board to direct their attention to the final Complete and Green Network Resolution as provided in the packet. She explained that the final version was a Resolution based on the input from the City’s legal department. H. Bartling expressed concern about the exemptions in the Resolution, specifically Exemption 5 which reads as follows: 5. Implementation would cause a neighborhood hardship. Neighborhood hardship means a particular difficulty is created for the neighborhood residents; examples include a significant reduction of on-street parking or diminish property values within the neighborhood. H. Bartling said that most of the other similar ordinances/policies for complete streets have exceptions that are related to either cost or types of streets that are prohibited for certain users. Other Board members expressed concern that the exemption for “neighborhood hardship” would be used to prevent changes to roadway configuration such removing vehicle parking to make way for a bicycle lane.

C. Hurley stated that the resolution was already set to be on City Council the following Monday and there was no additional time for modifications. She added that Director Robinson and the Legal Department developed the exceptions to address the variety of conditions they felt were relevant to the City of Evanston. C. Hurley said one option would be to formally record the Board’s concern over the neighborhood hardship exception by documenting a vote against the exception number. The other option would be to support the resolution in its existing format but watch its implementation closely over the first year and re-address the concern in one year’s time if it still posed an issue. Board discussed the options of formally voting against the inclusion of the neighborhood exemption and also voting to support the resolution as is. After some comments from all members, the Board voted to 5 to 0 to accept the resolution as presented in the meeting packet.

VI. DISCUSSION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY
C. Hurley provided an overview of the waste management outline provided by Public Works. The main components of the City’s solid waste program include: Single Family, Condominium, Commercial Franchise (Multi-Family and Businesses), City Operations and Exempt Entities (NU, Hospitals). She also described the files which were uploaded into Google Docs for review and use by...
the Board in their background research. The files included a draft waste management plan prepared by summer interns with a focus on enhancing multi-family recycling in Evanston. Documents can be found at the following links:
a. Waste and Recycling:
https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B4UH9zTajurMaDJyMUjRUN3S1U&usp=sharing
b. RFP-Municipal Solid Waste and Condominium Refuse:
https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B4UH9zTajurMaDJyMUjRUN3S1U&usp=sharing

The Board asked whether Staff could provide breakdowns of total waste and percentage of each stream. C. Hurley said she would find the original spreadsheets and share data used to create each figure. The Board also asked whether the City re-evaluate the exempt users and get them on our contract. C. Hurley said she would ask S. Robinson about this.

The Board determined that the next step would be to divide up the responsibilities of reviewing the documents and prepare some summary materials and recommendations for discussion at the February meeting. T. Clark will review information on the various sold waste streams and best practices and provide an initial recommendation on possible goals for the three waste streams. This will include a review of what is being done in other communities and thoughtful consideration of where we are at with current diversion numbers. H. Bartling asked about the financial model for the solid waste collection and wanted to understand the economics as well as the schedule of the franchise contracts. C. Hurley said she would invite S. Robinson to speak about this at the February meeting. K. Glynn volunteered to research strategies for increasing diversion rates.

VII. DISCUSSION OF BIKE PARKING FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS
S. Besson has invited Mark Munzer, Director of Community Development to attend the Board meeting to give an update on current activities and discuss Board suggestions/collaboration on a bike parking ordinance for new developments. He was unable to make this month’s meeting but will have the City’s new planner to attend in a meeting once he is hired.

VIII. 2014 SCHEDULE OF EEB MEETINGS
S. Besson directed the Board’s attention to the 2014 schedule of meeting dates.

IX. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENT BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION
S. Besson stated that she would welcome a co-chair for the Board. Anyone who is interested should contact her directly. She also stated that she appreciated everyone attending this month’s meeting so we could have quorum and hoped that we would continue to have quorum.

X. ROUNDTABLE

XI. ADJOURNMENT
S. Besson MOTION to adjourn. T. Clark SECONDED. ALL IN FAVOR
The meeting was concluded at 8:59pm.

NEXT MEETING – February 13, 2014