MEETING MINUTES

Evanston Environment Board
Thursday, December 8, 2011
7:00 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge, Room #2200

Members Present: Paige Finnegan, Suzanne Waller, Laurie Zoloth, Kevin Glynn, Ellen King

Members Absent: Jill Franklin, Anne Viner, Susan Besson, Likwan Cheng, Hugh Bartling

Staff Present: Catherine Hurley, Sustainability Coordinator

Community Members Present: Tanya Triche, Illinois Retail Merchants Association

Presiding Members: Paige Finnegan

I. CALL TO ORDER / DECLARATION OF QUORUM
   a. Meeting began at 7:05, however quorum was not achieved.
   b. Due to lack of quorum, minutes from November 2011 were not approved.

II. CITIZEN COMMENT
    There was no citizen comment.

III. ONGOING BUSINESS/NEWS/UPDATES
   a. Bird Friendly Buildings
      P. Finnegan referred Board Members to the documents in the packet on Bird Friendly buildings. Nate Kipnis, an active member of the Evanston Environmental Community and an architect, sent this information to P. Finnegan. P. Finnegan stated that a similar ordinance was done in Barrington and Highland Park. Members discussed the idea and were in favor of supporting such an initiative but were interested in getting a group outside of the Board to take it on. C. Hurley suggested that the Board reach out to the Chicagoland Audubon Society, which has an office in Evanston and is headed up by Judy Pollock. P. Finnegan agreed to reach out to J. Pollock and ask if she and the Audubon Society would like to take on this ordinance.

   b. Cook County Food Council Proposal
      P. Finnegan referred the Board to the documents in the packet on the proposed ordinance to develop a Cook County Food Policy Council. Any members of the Board who would like to provide feedback or get more involved should reach out directly to Debbie Hillman. P. Finnegan will provide contact information for D. Hillman if anyone needs it.
IV. DISPOSABLE BAGS
   a. Status from Council
   P. Finnegan asked C. Hurley for an update on the direction from City Council regarding the efforts to reduce the use of disposable, single-use shopping bags in Evanston. C. Hurley reported that there was no specific direction from Council on this matter and that there was no expectation that the Environment Board was to work on the topic. P. Finnegan reminded the Board that members agreed at last month’s meeting not to provide a response to Council regarding the bag issue. If an individual member, acting as a resident, wanted to reach out to specific Alderman or the Council as a whole, they are free to do so. P. Finnegan reported that J. Franklin has expressed interest in continuing to work on this topic and would resume her research and exploration in 2012. Tanya Triche, from the Illinois Retail Merchants Association, reported that the Manufacturer’s Responsibility and Recycling Bill (SB102), was back on the table for discussion in the next session for the Illinois Legislature.

   b. Ald. Grover Recommendation
   P. Finnegan reported that Alderman Grover had approached S. Besson and P. Finnegan with her ideas for the next steps on efforts to reduce shopping bags in Evanston. This information will be forwarded to J. Franklin for her work in 2012. L. Zoloth stated that she had prepared a response to the City Council regarding their comments on the shopping bag recommendation and she invited members of the board to review and let her know if they would like to have their name included on the document.

V. TRANSPORTATION
   a. Nomination to Transportation and Parking Committee
   P. Finnegan updated the Board with the news that a member of the Environment Board would be placed on the Transportation and Parking Committee as a full voting member. Hugh Bartling had expressed interest in serving this function however the Board was not able to formally vote on this nomination due to a lack of quorum.

   b. Recommendation to Human Services
   P. Finnegan reported that the Environment Board was scheduled to make a report on the bike corral recommendation to the Human Services Committee at their next meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday, January 4, 2012.

VI. 2012-2013 STRATEGIC PLAN DISCUSSION
   P. Finnegan reminded the board to review the updated guiding principles as included in the meeting packet. The Board’s bylaws would need to be amended in order to change the guiding principles. L. Zoloth suggested incorporating the Evanston 150 Top 10 ideas into the Board’s strategic plan.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION
   None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT
   The meeting was concluded at 7:35 pm.
NEXT MEETING – Thursday, January 12, 2012

Respectfully Submitted,
Catherine Hurley