MEETING NOTES
Evanston Environment Board
Thursday, February 14, 2013
7:00 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge, Room #2200

Members Present: Susan Besson, Stephanie Brown, Laurie Zoloth, Likwan Cheng, Hugh Bartling, Kevin Glynn

Members Absent: Tom Clark, Ellen King

Presiding Members: Susan Besson

I. CALL TO ORDER
   A. S.Besson began the meeting at 7:04.

II. CITIZEN COMMENT

III. STAFF UPDATES
    Homayoon Pirooz, Engineering Division Manager joined the meeting to introduce himself and provide some past experience he has had with pertinent topics to the Environment Board.

    S. Robinson updated the Board, explaining that Public Works applied for a CMAQ grant and she revealed her belief that competition for this grant will not be as hard as previous years due to a new processing set of guidelines.

    She also mentioned the IDOT article released regarding its lack of support for protected bike lanes. IDOT believes that no evidence exists showing that they are protecting bikers, therefore they do not plan on funding any projects that include the bike lanes.

IV. FOLLOW-UP TO MEMOS TO STAFF
    There was not anything to update on the memos the Board reviewed with regard to urban farms and neighborhood gardens as Community and Economic Development has tabeled the discussion as they re-review the memos and take the Board’s questions and comments into consideration.

V. COMPLETE STREETS
    It was noted by S.Robinson that a typo was included in the draft policy for complete streets. In item C the percentage was supposed to be 25 rather than 75. The Board previously agreed to review the document section by section; however, Susan suggested a cursory review of the whole document first before breaking it up. It was suggested that a review of the New Orleans Complete Streets Policy occur. S.Brown asked whether the Board believed the main topics be of value to
keep in the Evanston policy. The Board did believe that as of this meeting, a section for a purpose, objective, guidelines and exceptions is valuable.

Discussion ensued with how a policy like Complete Streets is written and implemented. Natalie Watson of Walk and Roll, a citizen at the meeting asked specifically about streets, such as Ridge Avenue. Since Ridge is a non-bike zone currently due to safety concerns, with a Complete Streets Policy, will that change? It was explained that the Complete Streets Policy does not have the intent of putting a bike lane on every street, but does implement a process for consideration on every street.

It was determined that a Complete Streets Policy has the priority to create a plan that maximizes safety and more equity in use by a diverse set of users.

The goal for the upcoming meeting is to review the purpose and policy and guidelines section of the proposed Policy.

VI. BOARD MEMBER ROSTER MAXIMUM
S. Robinson stated she had a meeting with the Mayor to discuss the number of Board Members appropriate for the Environment Board. The Mayor had selected additional members since the previous meeting and she had a couple additional on deck to review. S. Robinson said she would have information to report at the upcoming meeting.

VII. MEETING CONCLUSION
The meeting was concluded at 9:00 pm.

NEXT MEETING – March 14, 2013