Meeting called to order by Chair Finnegan 7:05pm

I. Approval of Minutes from April 8, 2010, discussion was held regarding the voting process. Chair Finnegan and members requested voice votes then identification of those dissenting or abstaining. Minutes will be amended to indicate the dissenting votes for the Hen vote on April 8, 2010. Chair Finnegan motioned to approve minutes with change to Jay Lytle and recording of dissenting. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote of all members present. Chair Finnegan also stated concerns were voiced about collecting the names of all those present at meetings. The board decided to continue to collect the names of those speaking only and not all attendees.

II. Citizen Comment

a. Chair Besson requested that individuals intending to speak sign in prior to speaking.

III. News

a. New Member Introduction – Hugh Bartling was introduced by Chair Finnegan. H. Bartling is an Associate Professor of Public Policy at DePaul University. His main interest is in development of Urban Sustainability.

b. Wind Farm Updates- Chair Finnegan stated the Request For Information (RFI) passed through council and it was posted on the City’s homepage

c. Backyard Hens- Chair Finnegan reported the ordinance will go again before Human Services in June.

d. North Shore Environmental Commissioners Meeting – Chair Besson reported she attended a meeting Highland Park two weeks ago, Highland Park, Northbrook, Winnetka, Wilmette, Deerfield, and Evanston were all represented. A representative of the Delta Institute interested in coordinating effort among many boards and commissions on the North
Shore also attended. Winnetka is working on an ordinance for recycling construction materials. Wilmette has passed a ban on synthetic phosphorous. **Chair Besson** will research the ban and its implications. Wilmette suggested, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing. This financing option allows for a resident to receive “green” improvements to their property and it is paid via an additional fee appears on your property tax. **Resident Len Sciarras** stated the PACE Financing allowed for the municipality to pay for improvements. The land is taxed at higher rate over 20 years or until it is paid for. **H. Bartling** indicated Senate Bill 2505 was passed last month in the Illinois Senate; it is now in the House Revenues Commission. **Len Sciarra** stated that Berkley is the one city known for applying Pace.

e. EEB Procedures: Covered in I

IV. Stormwater Management : Q&A with Lara Biggs, Asst. Supt., Water & Sewer Division, City of Evanston
a. **Chair Finnegan** presented **Lara Biggs**, Asst. Supt., Water and Sewer Division. She indicated the stormwater ordinance was passed in 2007, it requires that commercial properties with substantial improvements need to provide stormwater retention. The property needs a vortex restrictor that metes out stormwater into the sewer, the city assesses a fee of $150.00 for the inspection of the Vortex Restrictor. Any new developments over 5000 square feet or the construction value equal. Review 4-4-21-1 Developments Requiring Storm Water Control Retention must store water at a rate received in a 24 hour period that would contain a 100 year frequency rain storm and release it at a controled rate. **Ms. Biggs** stated many of the structures are below ground and vault-like. A policy without enforcement was in place from 2000 to 2007. The new ordinance requires 30 days for corrections. **Chair Finnegan** asked if the City was assessing fines, **Ms. Biggs** stated no, generally, once the individual was notified of the violation, it was quickly remedied. **Chair Finnegan** requested a number for these retention areas, **Ms. Biggs** indicated there were more than 100 such devices. **A. Viner** asked if there were any issues with pre-2007 properties. **Ms. Biggs** indicated there were issues but, it was difficult to track. **S. Besson** asked if all had been constructed since 2007. **Ms. Biggs** reported that many were constructed in 2000. **Ms. Biggs** reported the City is reviewing permits issued from 2000- 2007 and finding more sites without the restrictor. **C. Finnegan** requested information about the Watershed Management Ordinance. **Ms. Biggs** reported it would only apply to developments greater than ½ acre in size. All must have erosion and sediment control during construction. After construction the sites must have retention control. **Ms. Biggs** indicated the State of Illinois has tasked counties with the Watershed Management Plan Ordinance. **Chair Finnegan** asked if the ordinance excludes residential property, **Ms. Biggs** indicated it does not exclude residential property. **Chair Besson** asked how big of an issue construction site runoff is. **Ms. Biggs** indicated the City of Evanston is developing a policy to address construction runoff. There are issues presented with topographical changes due to construction and soil erosion. This becomes an issue when sites are abandoned. All water runs
into the sewer system. **W. Gallagher** asked how many communities are on the combined sewer system. **Ms. Biggs** indicated most communities, are on combined systems. **Ms. Biggs** indicated the combined systems take both sanitary and stormwater. **L. Cheng** stated the Clean Water Act 1990 began the first phase to separate Stormwater and Sanitary Sewage. Cities with infrastructure pre-WWII have combined sewers. Sewers in Western States have separated system known as Municipal Separate Storm Sewerage Systems (MS4). **W. Gallagher** indicated the movement seemed to be toward separate sewers. **D. Biss** asked where the municipal responsibilities stop and MWRD (Metropolitan Water Reclamation District) start. **Ms. Biggs** stated the MWRD has a number of interceptors, where Evanston sewers and MWRD meet. All of Evanston sewers run into MWRD Interceptors. **Ms. Biggs** indicated there are Combined Sewers, runoff only systems, and relief systems. The relief system connects to the TARP (Tunnel and Reservoir Plan), and flows to MWRD. When TARP becomes completely full it overflows into the channel. The City of Evanston does not own Public Owned Treatment Works (POTW). MWRD operates the facility on Howard and McCormick, the cost of operation appears as a tax. Cities have to apply for permits to operate sewer systems. The storm system can be expanded according to **Ms. Biggs** though it would be difficult and expensive. She indicated a large federal and state investment into the TARP (Tunnel and Reservoir Plan). **Len Sciarra** asked why it would be more difficult to expand the system. **Ms. Biggs** indicated it was due to cost. **A Viner** indicated removing our infrastructure from MWRD would be beyond the city’s capability. She further stated the city could effectively manage via retrofits and development of policy. **Ms. Biggs** stated the most efficient way to address stormwater is to prevent it. **A Viner** asked if rainbarrels were available via the city, **Ms. Biggs** indicated they were available for $40.00 at the MWRD site on Howard. **D. Cox** asked for the City’s position on Gray Water. **Ms. Biggs** indicated she would research. **Chair Finnegan** thanked **Ms. Biggs** for presenting before the board. **Chair Finnegan** indicated the board would be interested in working on the stormwater policy. The MS4 permit requires Public Education and Outreach, Illicit Discharge Detection, Construction Site Maintenance, Long term management planning, and municipal facility stormwater management. **Ms. Biggs** indicated the outreach portion was being handled effectively working with partners (recycling events, compost classes, rain barrel classes, Friends of the Chicago River Cleaning events). The one area of need is Construction Site Management. **Ms. Biggs** indicated the EPA directed the City of Evanston to develop a policy to address all runoff. The City’s ordinance is to be stricter than Cook County. **L. Cheng** asked about National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) permits, **Ms. Biggs** stated NPDES permits address expected discharge. **Ms. Biggs** anticipates having a draft of the construction runoff policy soon, and expects it to take ordinance form. **Chair Besson** asked the process to take to City Council, **Ms. Biggs** indicated the ordinance would involve more divisions and departments. **Chair Besson** indicated the Climate Action Plan called for Stormwater Management and requested to be kept abreast of any developments as they may affect homeowners. **L. Cheng** asked about pollution in Stormwater, **Ms. Biggs** stated she was
not aware of any testing or monitoring. D. Cox commented on a project on his home stating there appeared a sand layer six inches below topsoil. Ms. Biggs indicated land East of Ridge Ave. is mostly sand, west of Ridge is clay. There are flooding issues west of Ridge. Len Sciarra asked if there are any monetary incentives to reduce stormwater into TARP. Ms. Biggs indicated no there weren’t. Residential Flooding causes residents to look for ways to connect to the sewer systems and as those increase the system capacity shrinks. The size of the system is appropriate for the current connets, but as connections occur the system capacity lessens. Ms. Biggs also indicated issues with the granting of variances for residents to increase impermeable landscapes. A. Viner asked if there was value for the board to help with education, Ms. Biggs indicated it would be beneficial for residents to educate about rain barrels and permeable surfaces. She indicated a need to educate residents on hardening the watershed. Len Sciarra asked about permeable vs. impermeable surfaces, how do we reduce the water with all of the paving? Ms. Biggs indicated it would be important to provide education regarding the hardening of the landscape. Chair Finnegan will request K. Glynn review. Chair Finnegan asked for a list of educational components (composting, litter control etc.) the board will look into the permeable pavers. She offered the boards support and want to help in any way possible. H. Bartling asked about retrofitting for increase permeability, is the Water Department in conversation with Streets and Sanitation for the rebuilding of streets after main repairs. Ms. Biggs indicated a green alley with permeable pavers was installed at an increase of 25%. Len Sciarra stated the long term cost of not addressing the stormwater issue will be higher than the cost of the alley. The board thanked Ms. Biggs for her presentation. Ms. Biggs further stated the City of Evanston has become a Water Sense Partner. She indicated the water consumption has decreased 20% in the last few years.

V. IPM Outreach
   a. Chair Finnegan indicated the resolution passed. Chair Besson stated part of the ordinance called for educating the public on IPM. She stated the Evanston Garden Fair was a good place to hand out materials and requested the handout from Safer Pest Control and Parks Forestry and Recreation. C. Caneva will try to obtain more flyers.

VI. Code Review- Discussion was tabled until June meeting. H. Bartling asked about bike parking. The Multi-Modal plan addressed it specifically while it was not covered by the Code Review. He was interested in reviewing Bike Parking.

VII. Strategic Plan Discussion
   a. Stormwater Management
   b. Outreach – next EEB event? A. Viner indicated a need to provide outreach at events where people already gathered. The next potential event would be at the Garden Fair. There is a Willard Kindergarten Event on June 5, 2010.
   c. D. Cox reported back about the Eco-Exchange. The City of Evanston has begun to redo the website. One of the issues is the exchange may not be
live until mid 2011 near the end of the CAP. There has also been a concern regarding funding.

d. Chair Finnegan indicated an additional council memo should be made updating them on the board’s recent activities.

VIII. Roundtable

a. Chair Finnegan indicated they are looking for business owners and building owners/managers to change their exit signs from incandescent. There is a one time effort (BASE, COE, and Com ED). LED swap for $50 per exit sign. Baseevanston.org/exitsigns is the place to go to. There was a goal of 1250 signs and currently there are at 350. Interested parties can call C. Finnegan

D. Cox motioned to adjourn seconded by Daniel Biss at 8:35pm.

NEXT MEETING – July 10, 2010

Please remember that Board members are expected to attend all meetings. Please contact Carl Caneva, 847-866-7831 or ccaneva@cityofevanston.org if you are unable to attend this meeting.

All meetings of the Evanston Environment Board are open to the Public. The City of Evanston is committed to making all public meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons needing mobility or communication assistance should contact Brian Barnes, Inclusion Specialist, Health and Human Services Department at (847) 448-2054 (Voice), bbarnes@cityofevanston.org or 847-448-8052 (TDD).