Evanston Environment Board
Thursday, April 11, 2013
7:00PM
Lorraine H. Morton, 2100 Ridge Ave, Room #2200

AGENDA

I. Approval of Minutes from February (attachment)

II. Citizen Comment (Please sign in)

III. Staff Update (S. Robinson, C. Hurley) (attachment)

IV. Board Business
   a. Modification of Environment Board membership size – Mayor’s Response
   b. New Board members

V. Community and Economic Development Dept. Response to EEB Memo Regarding Neighborhood Gardens/Urban Farms (S. Robinson)

VI. Complete Streets Ordinance
   a. Response by City Staff to Draft Ordinance (S. Robinson, C. Hurley)
   b. Ordinance Development Timeline

VII. Roundtable

NEXT MEETING – May 9, 2013

Please remember that Board members are expected to attend all meetings. Please contact Laura Ruther, 847-859-7846 or lruther@cityofevanston.org if you are unable to attend this meeting.

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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 tabled 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. N. ? 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. Each Board Member was instructed to send M.Cain their red lined section for inclusion in the packet.

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
Memorandum

To: Evanston Environment Board

From: Suzette Robinson, Public Works Director
       Catherine Hurley, Sustainability Programs Coordinator

Subject: Staff Report

Date: April 9, 2013

Summary:
The following memorandum summarizes staff updates from the City of Evanston for the Evanston Environment Board for the April 9, 2013 meeting.

Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program Challenge
- Deadline for participation in the Nicor Gas programs is April 30th in order to have participation go towards the Challenge. Evanston has raised $10,100 so far in the Challenge with the winnings going toward an energy efficiency project at the YWCA Evanston/Northshore. Read more about the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program Challenge on their website.

- Two programs that are of interest to homeowners include:
  - FREE ON-LINE Energy Efficiency Tool: EnergyBUZZ is a free, online tool that helps you track your energy use to save money and earn rewards for the energy-efficient choices you make. Commit to using less energy today and let EnergyBUZZ show you how.
  - Home Energy Audit: The Home Energy Savings program makes it easy for homeowners to improve the energy efficiency and comfort of their home. This is the best deal offered by the utilities to date. Participants receive an in-depth energy efficiency assessment which identifies promising energy-efficiency upgrades, provides up to 70% or $1,750 in instant rebates if you complete the recommended work and connects homeowners to prequalified contractors to help get the work done. Sign-up today by calling 877-821-9988 and receive the deeply discounted assessment for $99 (value $500).

- EEB members interested in working on this project should reach out to Catherine Hurley.
STAR Communities – Sustainability Tools for Assessing and Rating for Communities

- Staff is beginning to review the areas to evaluate under the STAR Community Pilot Program, which will track and evaluate sustainability efforts of nearly thirty leadership cities and counties from across North America in a year-long testing evaluation of the STAR Community Rating System. STAR will evaluate communities based on their social, economic and environmental qualities, drive continuous improvement and foster competition, and provide an online system that gathers, organizes, analyzes and presents information needed to meet sustainability goals.

- EEB members interested in working on this project should reach out to Catherine Hurley.

National Drinking Water Week Activities

- A recommendation of the Water Conservation and Efficiency Plan is for the City to continue participation in an annual public education event around drinking water and water efficiency. The City has planned several activities around National Drinking Water Week which will be held May 5th – 12th.

- EEB members interested in supporting activities for the 2013 National Drinking Water Week should reach out to Catherine Hurley.

Evanston Recycling Fair

- The Evanston Recycling Fair will be held on July 13, 2013.

- EEB Members interested in supporting activities should reach out to Public Works.

Davis Street Protected Bike Path

- Preliminary design will be presented to Council on April 16, 2013 at 7:00pm. It will include establishing a protected bike path on Davis between Hinman and Asbury. Public Works staff will be working with adjacent neighbors, Aldermen, and the High School this summer to design the connections to the Lakefront, Mason Park, and the Skokie Channel.