DECLARATION OF QUORUM

With a quorum present, Chairman Finnegan called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 3, 2011

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the March 3 meeting be approved. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Stormwater Management Update

i. C. Hurley spoke to P. Schneider about Green stormwater infrastructure. June is a date to develop a comprehensive meeting.

ii. Sheridan Road project: CH indicated the discussion focused on the parkway, specifically on improving stormwater infiltration.

iii. H. Sprague asked if the tree ordinance presented a barrier, CH indicated the issue was the protection of the perimeter of the trees, but had no specifics. CH indicated there was an interest in the demonstration but, was unsure as to what the specifics included. SB indicated a want to involve NU students. CH will coordinate with LC.

iv. LC stated he will be speaking at a Provost Conference on Saturday, and will mention to provost.
v. HS indicated a rain garden was installed at Hull Park, students were involved.

vi. LZ spoke about a 5th ward work day, led by ETHS students and selected students from NU. They received 250 fruit trees and they are looking for sites. EK stated the Ladd Arboretum Board might suggest locations for trees.

vii. LC performed research about lifecycle of impervious surfaces, and will update Board in May.

viii. EK and CH spoke about the documentary Liquid Assets; CC will look into getting a copy.

ix. HS invited the Board members to visit his home where porous concrete has been laid.

**Bikes and the MMTP**

i. Business Demo Project Update

a. EK has been communicating with businesses, including the Evanston Athletic Club re: potential to improve bike parking in the downtown. LZ asked what the fixed cost of a bike 'U' rack was. HB stated they are proposing a bike corral that would take up a parking space. HB has been researching the cost, and has been in contact with the Active Transportation Alliance as well as CMAP. He indicated the City of Chicago was purchasing racks for $100.00 per U, not including installation. HB is researching interest in partnering to improve the bike parking situation. AV stated the project may need to focus on the building owner rather than the individual businesses. HB also stated they will be looking at Merchants Associations in the area to partner with.

b. Hugh described a system that uses raised curbs that delineate bike lanes. Suzette Robinson stated the issue is one of snow removal as well as cost. If areas were raised there are issues with equipment. SR indicated there are budgeting issues for these projects.

c. HB will continue to update the group, and will bring potential speakers to the board as well.
STAFF REPORTS

i. Backyard Chickens
   a. CC gave an update on backyard chickens and indicated complaints have increased and Health Department is addressing and will work with the backyard chicken group.

ii. Veolia Transfer Station
   a. CC gave an update regarding complaints
   b. EK indicated 40-50% was NU, the bulk of the waste is from private haulers
   c. EK indicated the facility process 500-700 tons per day. A best practice indicates it should be located on a 25 acre site.
   d. EK indicated there was a large amount of cardboard being dumped, recycling did end up at the transfer station.
   e. HB asked about the issue of idling on the Veolia site while the tarp is placed on top and while garbage is being transferred.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

i. Composting Ordinance Update

   a. SR gave an update regarding the Composting ordinance. It began at District 65, they asked for guidelines, but the City of Evanston did not have an ordinance or guidelines. The discussion began in earnest due to a rodent issue due to open composting. There are also a number of sites that have issues with regards to food scraps in piles. PF asked if the nuisance ordinance could be used to enforce the issue. SR stated the nuisance ordinance cannot be applied, due to an issue of access. AV stated she did not understand how the nuisance ordinance did not address this issue. SR stated
another goal of ordinance is to encourage proper composting.
b. SB stated if the goal is to produce appropriate composting why is a composting ordinance needed. SR stated there is a portion of a composting in the solid waste ordinance.
c. LZ stated the goal is to educate rather than issue fines for poor practices.
d. AV stated there are concerns with consistency with the State of Illinois, the ordinance is difficult to implement and interpret by residents. She is looking for an ordinance that is less punitive in nature.
e. SR welcomed the feedback from the group, and asked the group to submit their concerns and questions. Part of the ordinance will address training as well as providing containers.
f. AV suggested amending the solid waste ordinance, placing power and authority to address nuisance violations due to composting.
g. SR spoke about voluntary registration, stating it was needed to track the waste stream.
h. KG stated the problem with the composting ordinance is that you could compost correctly and still fall afoul of the ordinance.
i. HB requested an enumeration of composting complaints. SR indicated there have been 10-15 complaints over 3 years. SR indicated it was yard compost. AV asked CC about composting complaints; he stated the typical complaint involved piles of food on property.
j. LZ stated the solution should not be punitive via ordinance rather it should be promotional in nature. She suggested recognition and promotion.
k. CH asked for specific comments from the board
l. AV asked if the City would be open to exploring an amendment to the solid waste ordinance. SR indicated the City is open to hearing comments.
m. AV indicated an interest in discussing this issue with Catherine Hurley and legal, with something narrow and limited to address the issue.
n. EK indicated there were other effective ways to compost that were made illegal by the code, and was concerned with the ordinance.

ii. Upcoming Board Leadership Elections – Per Article IV, Section 2 (Election of Officers) of our by-laws, Board members shall elect officers by majority vote at the June meeting of odd years.

a. PF and SB urged members to consider presenting themselves as officers for the upcoming June elections.
b. CC will send final copy to members of the bylaws

iii. GBO Amendment Updates

a. CH coordinated a meeting on Monday night with discussion of an alternative compliance tract for commercial remodels. The GBO requires that for new construction between 10k and 20k, developers/property owners must choose 10-15 items from a to-be finalized list.

iv. Wind Committee

a. KG indicated there is a Mayor’s Wind Committee comprised of 20 members of which KG is one.. He was impressed with the level of education and expertise on the Committee. There will be recommendations issued to council over the summer.

b. PF asked how many people applied. CH answered 50.
c. LZ asked about the bird argument and the aesthetic argument.
d. KG indicated the Audubon Society has indicated birds need to be studied.
e. KG also indicated an issue is with power. The closest station able to handle the electricity is on Church and Gross Pt. Rd.

v. Milk Carton Recycling
   a. AV said she has spoken to District 65 about the program. Washington school relies heavily on parent volunteers that prepare the cartons for recycling. The discussion will move to the administrators at District 65 to discuss moving forward. She suggested going to milk carton recycling.com At middle school and high school plastic cartons are used and recycled. CH asked if there was a cost. AV indicated at Highland Park there was no cost. AV also spoke about food trays, and indicated there is some activity to accomplish this. CH will talk to DART about recycling Styrofoam to District 65, and will update the Board at the next meeting.

vi. Senate Bill 102: Plastic Bag and Film Recycling
    a. PF spoke about plastic bags to go before A&PW on April 25, 2011. CH indicated the focus was all disposable bags with a $.05 tax to the retailer.
    b. The focus of the current ordinance is to decrease the use of disposable bags and implement a tax. The tax would be implemented at the point of purchase.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was moved and seconded to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved at 9:13pm, April 14, 2011.

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, May 12, 2011

Respectfully Submitted,
Carl Caneva
Division Manager Health Department