Evanston Environment Board
Thursday, January 10, 2013
7:00PM
Lorraine H. Morton, 2100 Ridge Ave, Room #2401

AGENDA

I. Approval of Minutes from October (attachment)

II. Provision of December Meeting Notes (attachment)

III. Citizen Comment (Please sign in)

IV. Vote to Amend By-Laws (to allow for smaller board size) – Vote

V. Review Memorandum to Council Regarding Zoning Ordinance Amendment 114-O-12 – Urban Farm Use (attachment)

VI. Review Memorandum to Council Regarding Zoning Ordinance Amendment 115-O-12 – Neighborhood Garden Use (attachment)

VII. Complete Streets Ordinance (attachment)

VIII. Roundtable

NEXT MEETING – February 14, 2013

Please remember that Board members are expected to attend all meetings. Please contact Michelle Cain, 847-859-7837 or mcain@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
MEETING MINUTES

Evanston Environment Board
Thursday, October 11, 2012
7:00 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge, Room #2200

Members Present: Susan Besson, Likwan Cheng, Laurie Zoloth, Ellen King, Hugh Bartling

Members Absent: Kevin Glynn, Suzanne Waller, Jill Franklin

Staff Present: Catherine Hurley, Sustainability Coordinator, Michelle Cain, Executive Secretary, Public Works Department

Presiding Members: Susan Besson

I. CALL TO ORDER / DECLARATION OF QUORUM
   A. S. Besson called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

II. CITIZEN COMMENT
    There was no citizen comment.

III. STAFF UPDATES
    Staff provided the Board a packet of information prior to the meeting on various topics, such as the electricity aggregation program, the water conservation and efficiency plan, and bicycle infrastructure. No discussion was held with regard to the update since the Board was provided the staff update prior to the meeting.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS
    A. Resignation of Paige Finnegan and Jill Franklin
       S. Besson started the meeting by announcing that although P. Finnegan was planning to attend the meeting, but was was unable to make it. She would have announced her resignation from the Board; however, S. Besson announced it instead. S. Besson stated that the P. Finnegan was resigning because she was moving outside of Evanston.

       S. Besson also announced that J. Franklin stated that she also would be resigning from the Board as a result of a heavy workload. She is very passionate about the Board; however, does not have the time to devote to it.

       E. King stated that she would like to state some words in light of the resignations and based on her observations of the Board’s activity. E. King stated that she believed that perhaps a perspective difference or structure difference would benefit the Board. Perhaps the Board select a goal or objective to work toward over a year or year and a half, which would allow the
Board members, who all have busy schedules, to keep up with what tasks are required and which have been completed. She stated that she isn’t sure what the Board has accomplished over the previous two years. S.Besson reassured E.King that she valued her input, but felt that it was a discussion they should revisit after covering the agenda items, especially since a guest speaker was present.

V. BIRD-FRIENDLY BUILDINGS
A. Judy Pollack of Audobon attend the meeting to provide an update to the Board on what progress has been made with regard to bird-friendly buildings. J.Pollack stated that an ordinance had been passed in San Francisco, which targets the most vulnerable areas and egregious situations. She also stated that she spoke with S.Waller about Northwestern University’s ongoing construction. The feedback from the school was positive and significant changes were being made to the Visitor’s Center plans.

B. Areas of concern were also discussed with regard to a proposed ordinance. One area J.Pollack noted about the San Francisco ordinance was that the ordinance only effected new construction within a clear flight plan. This was somewhat unclear and arduous because it requires mapping out flight plans. C.Hurley offered to raise the issue at a Council meeting for feedback. H.Bartling suggested that the chicken ordinance might be a good model. The Board also discussed that there should be a strategic effort developed, so that it is eased into the process of review. L.Cheng stated that considerations had to be made for all effecting factors and that rules had to be clear within the ordinance. For instance, he stated that a lack of glass kills habitat, so ensuring that the right people with the right expertise were a part of the process was important. The Board suggested that the citizens could identify the experts and clarify what was needed. From there, the ordinance could be forwarded to Building & Zoning via C.Hurley to Steve Griffin and Dennis Marino. J. Pollack stated that she had already spoken to Walter Hallen and Dennis. In addition, all Board members agreed to reach out to their aldermen about the ordinance, so that the topic is not a surprise when it is eventually presented. L.Zoloth suggested that the ordinance include credits for doing optional bird-friendly, so that it has a positively reinforcing element to it.

VI. VEOLIA
A. Although not a part of the agenda, an update on Veolia’s lawsuit was raised. L.Zoloth stated she was meeting with someone regarding Veolia. Veolia did lose the lawsuit. L.Zoloth also raised the issue of letters the Board agreed to write at the previous meeting. The letters were to be written to nearby customers of Veolia asking them to reconsider where their trash is taken. The letters were to support the City’s stance. Catherine said that the people who might be most instrumental in assisting would be other sustainability coordinators and staff members at the customer cities.

VII. Board Membership/Recruitment
A. As S.Besson stated, the topic E.King raised was to be revisited. S.Besson announced again that the Board would be losing P.Finnegan and J.Franklin, which brings the Board down to 7 members. S.Besson said she would be speaking to Barb Cornew of the Active Transportation Alliance, a new resident
to Evanston, about her possible involvement. S. Besson also stated she had plans to speak to two members of Walk-N-Roll. In addition, the Board discussed reducing the total membership maximum to 9 rather than 13, which would make reaching quorum easier. The remainder of the meeting was closed from public consumption.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was concluded at 9:03 pm.

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, November 8, 2012

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Cain
MEETING NOTES
Evanston Environment Board
Thursday, October 11, 2012
7:00 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge, Room #2200

Members Present: Susan Besson, Ellen King, Stephanie Brown, Tom Clark

Members Absent: Kevin Glynn, Suzanne Waller, Likwan Cheng, Laurie Zoloth, Hugh Bartling

Presiding Members: Susan Besson

I. CALL TO ORDER
   A. S.Besson began the meeting at 7:08. No quorum was obtained and the following information are documented notes.

II. CITIZEN COMMENT
    Debbie Hillman, an active resident in Evanston attended the meeting. Ms. Hillman stated that she has a growing concern over the fall of city government and wanted to understand how residents of Evanston can help streamline processes. She attended the Environment Board’s meeting specifically because she understood that the strategic plan was being updated. It was clarified that the Environment Board’s strategic plan was already updated and reviewed by Council; however, the City’s strategic plan would be updated in 2013. The City and Board are interested in community involvement through various open houses and focus groups. S.Besson clarified that since the Board was a policy board rather than an action or outreach Board, community involvement might not be a necessity at all times.

III. STAFF UPDATES
    C.Hurley informed the Board that there were no highlights in the update, but did explain to the new Board members that this is something staff does to allow the Board more time to discuss issues at hand, but still keep everyone abreast of upcoming City business relevant to the Board. S.Besson stated that the highlights allow the Board to approach work differently in that they give information on transportation, waste, green infrastructure, complete streets or bike parking. This allows the Board an opportunity to better focus on fewer topics.

    T.Clark inquired about the status and background of the bike lanes and parking. S.Robinson stated that the bike plan was developed in 2003 and the multi-modal plan in 2007. During the development of those plans, the community was invited to help develop the priorities and necessities. Since then, parts of the plans have been implemented, some have become obsolete and newer ideas have come about and then even addition motivation for priority of what projects to start and in which order has come from funding opportunities. For instance, the protected bike
path connects to an existing Elgin bike path that will connect to Evanston. It connects from McCormick to the lakefront. Funding was easier to obtain for this path because it connects to the larger bike route.

S. Robinson also said that public transit, walking, biking and nearest employers played a role in where some choices for bike parking or bike paths were made. S. Robinson said that the greatest inspiration for the protected bike path came from the development of the bike map. C. Hurley was updating the map and S. Robinson became interested in accessibility for children and casual bikers. In addition, she was also noticing that bikes were being locked to everything from trees to parking meters, which motivated some of the placement of bike parking.

S. Robinson also stated that the City currently secured a grant from CMAP to update the City’s bike plan. The update will be comprehensive and include Northwestern University as well as an RFP process to select consultants to assist in the update of the plan. Focus groups and Boards will be necessary to update the plan including the Environment Board who can act as a focus group.

The complete streets ordinance was also raised. It was clarified that it is separate from the bike plan, but that it is not only essential to the bike plan, but also plays a role in all projects the City does using streets, sidewalks, etc. The Public Works Department will be tasked with creating the standard operating procedures that comply with the ordinance and the ordinance will list the issues to address through the design process.

S. Robinson highlighted the fact that the timeline for preparing the ordinance will be very tight and if the Board was interested in completing the ordinance, the goal would be to complete it by September 2013 when the call for projects occurs and funding is available. S. Besson said that she is interested in defining the steps to meet the goal and create a defined schedule. She was not eager to invite the public in great mass; however, people are not discouraged from visiting the meetings to provide feedback or offer expertise. The first step listed is that it would be wise to look at the ordinances created by other communities, such as Schaumburg and Wheeling.

IV. INTRODUCTION/WELCOME OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS
Both Stephanie Brown and Tom Clark were welcomed to the Board. An updated roster was provided in the packet.

V. DEBRIEF OF NOVEMBER STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION TO RULES COMMITTEE
A. Plan Endorsed – Prioritize Goals for 2013
   This item was deferred due to a lack of quorum.
B. Plans to Change Code to Adjust Membership Numbers
   This item was deferred due to a lack of quorum.

VI. NEW BUSINESS, FOR CONSIDERATION AND FEEDBACK
A. Zoning Ordinance Amendment 114-O-12 – Urban Farm Use
B. Zoning Ordinance Amendment 115-O-12 – Neighborhood Garden Use
These two ordinances were brought forward for Environment Board review as a result of amendments made to clear up blurry spots and existing questions within the current ordinances. Both E.King and S.Besson expressed their satisfaction with the ordinances themselves. However, under further scrutiny, it was agreed that some clarification was required in the ordinances and changes could be made or references added to make certain points clearer. The Board agreed that they needed some time to review the ordinances and asked for a review time at the end of February rather than the current scheduling in January.

VII. MEETING CONCLUSION
The meeting was concluded at 8:53 pm.

NEXT MEETING – January 10, 2013
WHEREAS, on June 13, July 18, August 18, and September 12, 2012, the Plan Commission held a public hearing, pursuant to proper notice, regarding case no. 12PLND-0036 to consider various amendments to the text of Title 6 of the Evanston City Code of 2012, as amended (the “Zoning Ordinance”), relating to the creation of the Use known as “Urban Farm;” and

WHEREAS, the Plan Commission received testimony and made written findings pursuant to Section 6-3-4-5 of the Zoning Ordinance that the proposed amendments met the standards for text amendments, and recommended City Council approval thereof; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting of November 12, 2012, the Planning and Development Committee of the City Council considered and adopted the findings and recommendation of the Plan Commission in case no. 12PLND-0036 and recommended City Council approval thereof; and

WHEREAS, at its meetings of November 12 and November 26, 2012, the City Council considered and adopted the records and recommendations of the Plan Commission and the Planning and Development Committee,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THAT:
SECTION 1: The foregoing recitals are hereby found as fact and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2: Section 6-18-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Definitions,” is hereby amended to include the following:

URBAN FARM: An indoor or outdoor principal use that includes growing plant products for wholesale or retail sales and may include one (1) or more of the following: washing; packaging; storage. Typical Urban Farms may include growing beds, greenhouses, and orchards.

URBAN FARM, ROOFTOP: A rooftop accessory use that includes growing plant products for wholesale or retail sales and may include one (1) or more of the following: washing; packaging; storage. Typical Rooftop Urban Farms may include growing beds, greenhouses, and orchards.

SECTION 3: Subsection 6-9-2-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the B1 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 4: Subsection 6-9-3-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the B2 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 5: Subsection 6-9-4-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the B3 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 6: Subsection 6-9-5-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the B1a District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 7: Subsection 6-10-2-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the C1 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 8: Subsection 6-10-3-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the C1a District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 9: Subsection 6-10-4-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the C2 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”
SECTION 10: Subsection 6-11-2-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the D1 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 11: Subsection 6-11-3-4 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the D2 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 12: Subsection 6-11-4-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the D3 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 13: Subsection 6-11-5-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the D4 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 14: Subsection 6-12-2-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the RP Research Park District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 15: Subsection 6-13-2-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the MU District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 16: Subsection 6-13-3-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the MUE District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 17: Subsection 6-13-4-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the MXE District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 18: Subsection 6-14-2-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the I1 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm” and “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 19: Subsection 6-14-3-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the I2 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm” and “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”
SECTION 20: Subsection 6-14-3-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the I3 District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm” and “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 21: Subsection 6-15-2-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the O1 Office District, is hereby amended to include “Urban Farm, Rooftop.”

SECTION 22: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 23: If any provision of this ordinance or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid application or provision, and each invalid provision or invalid application of this ordinance is severable.

SECTION 24: This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 25: The findings and recitals contained herein are declared to be prima facie evidence of the law of the City and shall be received in evidence as provided by the Illinois Compiled Statutes and the courts of the State of Illinois.

Introduced:___________________, 2012
Approved:

Adopted:___________________, 2012 
____________________________, 2012

____________________________

Elizabeth B. Tisdahl, Mayor
Attest:   

_______________________________
Rodney Greene, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

_______________________________
W. Grant Farrar, Corporation Counsel
AN ORDINANCE

Amending Portions of the Zoning Ordinance to Create the “Neighborhood Garden” Use

WHEREAS, on, July 18, August 15, and September 12, 2012, the Plan Commission held a public hearing, pursuant to proper notice, regarding case no. 12PLND-0036 to consider various amendments to the text of Title 6 of the Evanston City Code of 2012, as amended (the “Zoning Ordinance”), relating to the creation of the Use known as “Neighborhood Garden;” and

WHEREAS, the Plan Commission received testimony and made written findings pursuant to Section 6-3-4-5 of the Zoning Ordinance that the proposed amendments met the standards for text amendments, and recommended City Council approval thereof; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting of November 12, 2012, the Planning and Development Committee of the City Council considered and adopted the findings and recommendation of the Plan Commission in case no. 12PLND-0036 and recommended City Council approval thereof; and

WHEREAS, at its meetings of November 12 and November 26, 2012, the City Council considered and adopted the records and recommendations of the Plan Commission and the Planning and Development Committee,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THAT:
SECTION 1: The foregoing recitals are hereby found as fact and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2: Section 6-18-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Definitions,” is hereby amended to include the following:

NEIGHBORHOOD GARDEN: A principal use that provides space for people to grow plants for non-commercial purposes, such as beautification, education, recreation, or harvest, and is managed by a specific person or group responsible for maintenance and operations.

SECTION 3: Chapter 4 of the Zoning Ordinance is hereby amended by the enactment of a new Section 9 thereof, to read as follows:

6-4-9: NEIGHBORHOOD GARDENS:

A neighborhood garden is a principal use that provides space for people to grow plants for non-commercial purposes, such as beautification, education, recreation, or harvest, that is managed by a specific person or group responsible for maintenance and operations. The following general requirements shall apply to neighborhood gardens:

(A) The person or group responsible for managing the garden shall be identified on each required annual application/registration form.

(B) On-site processing and/or storage of plants or plant products are prohibited.

(C) Outdoor storage of any kind is prohibited.

(D) A fence and one (1) accessory structure for the storage of gardening tools and supplies, no larger than one hundred twenty square feet (120 sq. ft.) in area, shall be allowed on-site, provided the owner or operator first obtains a Certificate of Zoning Compliance or Building Permit for it/them.

(E) Composting of plant material that is grown on site shall be permitted, except in the front yard. All other composting is prohibited.

(F) No incidental sales of plants or produce shall take place on site.

(G) Neighborhood gardens shall be maintained so as not to encourage the harboring of vermin. Accumulations of weeds and/or rubbish is prohibited.

SECTION 4: Subsection 6-8-2-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the R1 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”
SECTION 5: Subsection 6-8-3-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the R2 Residential, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 6: Subsection 6-8-4-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the R3 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 7: Subsection 6-8-5-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the R4 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 8: Subsection 6-8-6-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the R4a District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 9: Subsection 6-8-7-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the R5 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 10: Subsection 6-8-8-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the R6 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 11: Subsection 6-9-2-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the B1 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 12: Subsection 6-9-3-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the B2 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 13: Subsection 6-9-4-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the B3 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 14: Subsection 6-9-5-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the B1a District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 15: Subsection 6-10-2-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the C1 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”
SECTION 16: Subsection 6-10-3-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the C1a District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 17: Subsection 6-10-4-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the C2 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 18: Subsection 6-11-2-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the D1 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 19: Subsection 6-11-3-4 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the D2 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 20: Subsection 6-11-4-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the D3 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 21: Subsection 6-11-5-3 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Special Uses” in the D4 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 22: Subsection 6-12-2-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the RP District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 23: Subsection 6-13-2-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the MU District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 24: Subsection 6-13-3-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the MUE District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 25: Subsection 6-13-4-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the MXE District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 26: Subsection 6-14-2-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the I1 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”
SECTION 27: Subsection 6-14-3-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the I2 District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 28: Subsection 6-15-2-2 of the Zoning Ordinance, “Permitted Uses” in the O1 Office District, is hereby amended to include “Neighborhood Garden.”

SECTION 29: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 30: If any provision of this ordinance or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid application or provision, and each invalid provision or invalid application of this ordinance is severable.

SECTION 31: This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 32: The findings and recitals contained herein are declared to be prima facie evidence of the law of the City and shall be received in evidence as provided by the Illinois Compiled Statutes and the courts of the State of Illinois.

Introduced:___________________, 2012
Adopted:___________________, 2012

_______________________________
Elizabeth B. Tisdahl, Mayor

Attest: ________________________
Approved as to form:

_______________________________
Rodney Greene, City Clerk

W. Grant Farrar, Corporation Counsel