Evanston Environment Board
Thursday, May 9, 2013
7:00PM
Lorraine H. Morton, 2100 Ridge Ave, Room #2200

AGENDA

I. Approval of Minutes from April (attachment)

II. Citizen Comment (Please sign in)

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

IV. Complete Streets Ordinance
   a. Ordinance Development – Draft Goals
   b. Process and Time Line

V. Roundtable

NEXT MEETING – June 13, 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.

All meetings of the Evanston Environment Board are open to the Public. The City is committed to ensuring accessibility for all citizens. Any citizen needing mobility or communications access assistance should contact the Facilities Management Office at 847-866-2916 (Voice) or 847-448-8064 (TYY).
MEETING NOTES
Evanston Environment Board
Thursday, April 11, 2013
7:00 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge, Room #2200

Members Present: Susan Besson, Hugh Bartling, Kevin Glynn, Tom Clark, Samuel Headd, Todd Schwier

Members Absent: Ellen King, Laurie Zoloth, Likwan Cheng, Stephanie Brown

Staff: Suzette Robinson, Director of Public Works, Catherine Hurley, Sustainable Programs Coordinator, Laura Ruther, Clerk II

Presiding Member/s: Susan Besson

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL of MINUTES from February. Annotated minutes approved. All in favor.

WELCOME to new Board Members – Samuel Headd and Todd Schwier.

III. CITIZEN COMMENT

Community Gardens - T. Clark noted to board high demand for community gardens. Lottery had more than 50 people attending with only 17 spots

IV. STAFF UPDATES

STAR Communities – C. Hurley – Noted to EEB that this is the opportunity to be involved with STAR Communities grading and evaluation for Evanston. STAR scope is broad but includes environmental aspects. Susan Besson and Kevin Glynn volunteered to assist in providing feedback for City’s submission for STAR pilot program.

Bike Corrals – H. Bartling inquired about last year’s pilot project. S. Robinson updated board that EAC approved/agreed 5-yr contract for 2 metered spaces for Apr–Nov use as bike coral at a $1500/mo. fee. She will be presenting this to Council Tuesday, April 16. Board discussed different evaluation processes for establishing fees for leasing parking spaces and determining how large the racks should be and where a rack is needed. Future corrals suggested- (Central St., Dempster St., Main St. Metra area). Discussion included broad spectrum of issues including lost meter revenue, environmental impact (emissions), destination value, increased traffic to retailers for future consideration – including looking at an
aggregate of parking meter revenue for 2011 and 2012 on Benson to help in determining appropriate value of meter space.

Bike Paths – S. Robinson updated Board sharing retailers’ concerns about Davis St. bike bath resulting in loss of 7 parking spaces between Hinman and Ridge. This plan is before council on Tuesday, April 16th.

Board also discussed the problem of delivery trucks parked for long periods of time on Church St. between Chicago Ave and Orrington. SR confirmed that reporting delivery trucks to police will result in ticketing.

V. BOARD BUSINESS

MODIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENT BOARD MEMBERSHIP SIZE – MAYOR’S RESPONSE & NEW BOARD MEMBERS
Efforts were initiated to add Board Members to EEB according to the By-laws which specifies 13 members. Since initiative, EEB has gained 4 new members with one more member in the pipeline.

VI. COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPT. RESPONSE TO EEB MEMO REGARDING NEIGHBORHOOD GARDENS/URBAN FARMS
CED responded that EEB role good and prompted further review. The Review clarified:
As relates to Urban Farms
- Only allowed in I districts (Zoning)
- Allows special use within districts with permit
- Retail not permitted – incidental sales considered
S. Robinson will advise Board next time Urban Gardens are discussed, currently under further review.

VII. COMPLETE STREETS ORDINANCE
As background for new members Board reviewed definition of ‘Complete Streets’ – the concept behind ‘Complete Streets’ is that streets should balance and consider all modes of transportation (e.g. bicycles, pedestrians, wheelchairs, cars...), recognizing and in consideration of safety, health, environment, and community.

S. Besson proposed titling this document ‘COMPLETE and GREEN STREETS’ that would encompass environmental (e.g. storm water) elements and serve as a ‘guiding’ document for Evanston streets and planning projects.

Susan B. suggested that in preparation and to be most efficient in reviewing other cities’ ordinances, EEB should now discuss and develop goals customized to Evanston and review other ordinances with these goals in mind.

The Board discussed 2 types of goals: Vision Goals and Measurable Goals. Measurable goals address accountability, i.e. lower emissions, fewer accidents. Vision goals describe what ‘Complete and Green’ streets will do for the city. The ordinance would mandate a process that considers the environment and all modes
of transportation. Additionally, the Board discussed the importance of objectively vetting the ‘Complete Streets’ document with the community.

Board tasked themselves to review Cleveland’s ordinance, a noted excellent ‘complete streets’ ordinance, and begin shaping goals for next meeting.

VIII. ROUNDTABLE
H. Bartling brought to the Boards attention the recent approval by the zoning department of a landscape waste facility allowing yard waste on site near Home Depot. The property is currently a junk yard. S. Robinson confirmed that although there was approval it was early in the process and there would be more permitting required and opportunity for review by the community and EEB.

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

NEXT MEETING – May 9, 2013
Memorandum

To: Evanston Environment Board

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

Subject: Staff Report

Date: May 9, 2013

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

Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program Challenge
- The Program ended on April 30th and Evanston made a sprint to the finish in the last few weeks. Thank you to Susan Besson for hosting a house party and for other members of the Board for attending other house parties and spreading the word about this program. On Monday, May 20th at 1:00 pm, Mayor Tisdahl will join Nicor Gas to present a “big check” to the YWCA to help fund an energy efficiency project for their facility. All members of the community are welcome to attend this event.
Read more about the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program Challenge on their website.

STAR Communities – Sustainability Tools for Assessing and Rating for Communities
- Staff is in the process of hiring two summer interns to help with the city’s participation in the STAR Community Pilot Program. Kevin Glynn and Susan Besson have volunteered to provide staff assistance and input on this process, which should begin in June.

ECAP Update 2013
- Staff is in the process of collecting information to summarize the last year’s progress towards implementing the ECAP. Staff is scheduled to make a presentation to City Council on July 15th. Input from the Environment Board should be submitted by June 15 to be included in the report.

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.

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 - Update
● Preliminary design presented to Council and approved.