MEETING NOTES
Evanston Environment Board
Thursday, November 13, 2014
7:00 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge, Room #2200

Members Present: Todd Schwier, Samuel Headd, Linda Young, Kevin Glynn, Hugh Bartling

Members Absent: Ellen King, Husayn Allmart

Staff: Kenya Evans, Executive Secretary

Presiding Member/s: Todd Schwier (Chair)

I. CALL TO ORDER – Todd Schwier called meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

II. APPROVAL of MINUTES from October. Todd Schwier made a MOTION to approve. All in favor.

III. CITIZEN COMMENT
Resident Mr. Marcus Barnes expressed interest in possibly becoming a member of the board. He asked to observe activities but had no comment.

IV. STAFF UPDATES (ATTACHMENT)
C. Hurley directed the board’s attention to staff updates. She stated that there were no serious changes or modifications to the ongoing Divvy Bike Plan, and that any update would occur upon the next council meeting. H. Bartling expressed concern regarding the number of Divvy bike stations. H. Bartling stated that he was concerned about connectivity and effectiveness. C. Hurley stated that the City will push for more stations and will continue gathering community feedback. C. Hurley emphasized that initial phase will go over all concerns, questions, etc. L. Young was also concerned about connectivity and K. Glynn suggested that a year of observation, study and data collection is needed to properly address all concerns.
C. Hurley mentioned that there has been an update on the bag giveaway that will take place in conjunction with the plastic bag ordinance. The type of bag to be given to residents would be discussed at the next council meeting.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE REPORT
K. Glynn directed the board to look over the committee report. K. Glynn and S. Headd announced that committee will meet Dec. 2 and many individuals have expressed interest in the committee’s activities. C. Hurley also informed the board that Evanston is one of the only a few municipalities that are tackling environmental justice. L. Young suggested that committee talk about issues regarding civil rights and transportation as well. L. Young will research and get more information for the board about this topic. L. Young will bring findings to next meeting.
VI. COAL TAR BAN DISCUSSION
T. Schwier informed board of Winnetka’s coal tar ban. He suggested that board look into drafting memo about possibly addressing this issue for private property. S. Headd asked if coal tar was detrimental to health and environment. T. Schwier directed board to look at several studies which addressed he had presented regarding the effects of coal tar. T. Schwier explained that most studies point to cumulative effects rather than an immediate one. T. Schwier further explained that coal tar has to be reapplied often and chemicals may produce adverse results. However a direct link to illnesses or immediate detriment to fauna or flora has not been found. C. Hurley suggested that board request any memos and reference documents regarding the effects for further research and discussion. T. Schwier supported this idea and this issue will be discussed in further detail next meeting.

VII. BIKE PARKING FOR PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT
The board turned their attention to bike parking for private development. H. Bartling stated that he has done further research on this issue and that most cities have ordinances for certain types of bike parking and racks. He stated that most ordinances were designed to require inverted u-racks. H. Bartling stated that there can be more research into ways that developers could be influenced to provide more bike parking and introduce racks that could give individuals more options for parking. L. Young suggested that board look into ways in which ordinances could be provided regarding how far away bike parking could be from public right of way. L. Young explained that bike parking should include other factors including safety, access and visibility. K. Glynn and H. Bartling supported this point. C. Hurley suggested that board utilize other City of Evanston departments such as Community Development in researching bike parking issues. H. Bartling suggested that board formally devise a memo for discussion at next meeting to be presented to these other departments and individuals in the City.

VIII. ROUNDTABLE
T. Schwier presented to the board a letter of support for the Fresh Walgreens initiative. T. Schwier stated that Walgreens on Simpson Ave. had been previously unaware of the potential for branching out and becoming more diverse in its service options to the community. L. Young stated that the letter should further express the ways in which Walgreens has benefitted the community as it has been a landmark location for a long time now. C. Hurley also reiterated this point and stated that she has noticed a few changes in the store since talks about the initiative have begun. She also commented that she hopes the changes continue and that there is a wider selection of fresh produce and vegetables for the community in the near future. The Board agreed to continue crafting the letter and discuss in detail at next meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT
T. Schwier MOTION to adjourn. K. Glynn seconded. All in Favor.
NEXT MEETING – December 11, 2014