Evanston Environment Board

Thursday October 16, 2008


Board Members Absent: David Dankert, Susan Kaplan, Paige Knutsen, Vicky McKinley, Eli Port,

Community Members Present: Beth Ulion Northwestern University

Staff Present: Carl Caneva HHS, Carolyn Collopy Sustainability Coordinator

I. Approval of Minutes for September 11, 2008
   • Elizabeth Kinney moved to approve the minutes and William Gallagher seconded.

II. Green Building Ordinance
   • Chairman Sciarra gave an overview of activities of the Board’s activities with regard to the Green Building Ordinance. The Green Building Ordinance has been in the works for over a year. C. Carolyn Collopy stated that the cost of the JRC was only 3-5% higher than normal construction. Members discussed the merit of presenting the ordinance to include buildings of 20,000 square feet or 10,000 square feet, members decided to include 10,000 square feet in their presentation to the Human Services Committee October 20, 2008. C. Collopy stated there may be issues with affordable housing and the Green Building Ordinance. Chair Sciarra had conversation with Carlos Ruiz concerning the issue of the Green Building Ordinance and preservation there did not seem to be any issues. Chair Sciarra and E. Kinney will present at Monday’s HSC meeting.
III. Old Business
- Chair Sciarra is interested in presenting the Environment Awards in front of the City Council and requested a date.
- C. Caneva will get a date for the presentation to council
- E. Kinney will send paragraphs describing the efforts of the award winners to C. Caneva.

IV. New Business
- S. Beson gave a brief description of Evanston Climate Action Plan activities. The main thrust of this effort is to reduce expected 2012 emissions by 13%.
- S. Beeson suggested the Coordination of Environment Groups (Keep Evanston Beautiful, Network for Evanston’s future etc.) as well as other Environmental Groups of note acting without the knowledge of the other groups.
- Committee discussed further researching the Oak Park noise ordinance. Chair Sciarra asked for where to go from this point. Committee will address the issue with Susan Kaplan at the next meeting.
- Energy Commission help to write PR piece on energy conservation, G. Borough volunteered to help with this initiative.
- Chair Sciarra asked about the existence of the City’s Green Team and where it is headed. C. Collopy and C. Caneva stated the Green Team’s numbers have lessened due to the City of Evanston’s Early Retirement Initiative (ERI) and the group would need to be revisited.
- Members discussed inviting City of Evanston staff to speak to how departments are meeting their sustainability/ green goals. Chair Sciarra indicated he would like the Economic Development Coordinator to speak to the group. C. Caneva indicated he will contact the Economic Development Office for availability.

E. Kinney moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:46 PM seconded by R. Kuntz.