



MEETING MINUTES

Evanston Environmental Board

Thursday, September 13, 2018

7:00 p.m.

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge, Room #2404

Members Present: Cherie Leblanc-Fisher, Jerri Garl, Wendy Pollock, Linda Young, Tom Klitzkie, Scott Osborne, Noreen Edwards, Sarah Liddell

Members Absent: Michael Kormanik, Christopher Kucharczyk

Staff Present: Kumar Jensen, Leslie Perez, Bridget Randazzo

Guests: Michael Berman, Rocco Tucci, Sara Stewart, Melanie West, Kelli-Ann Alcott

Presiding Member: Scott Osborne

1. Declaration of Quorum

S. Osborne called meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and a quorum was established.

2. Public Comment

Moved to Public Hearing

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September

C. Leblanc-Fisher motioned to accept amended minutes, J. Garl seconded, all approved

4. Environment Board Review of Draft Plan

A. Review Plan Goals, Targets, Actions and Metrics

K. Jensen explained the CARP plan is comprised of the recommendations of both task forces of CARP and the full CARP working group that was submitted to City staff for review. City staff was permitted to revise the framing and layout. City staff revised the Municipal Operations section. The executive summary, letter from the mayor, acknowledgements, and appendix section were omitted from the draft document. Three appendices will be included, the emissions inventory, vulnerability assessment and narrative; and overview of the planning process.

B. Review Comments Submitted to CARP by Environment Board

S. Osborne asked for the timeline of the CARP draft plan. K. Jensen stated the public comments portion will end on September 28th and no comments will be accepted after September 28th. The comments will be combined and presented to CARP. CARP will meet on October 2nd to review the comments. CARP will meet again on October 9th to vote on the final recommendations of the draft plan. City

staff will revise the plan and present to the Human Services Committee on November 5th.

C. Consider Plan Components that Environment Board could Implement

S. Osborne solicited comments from the board members present at the meeting.

T. Klitzkie questioned the number of large employers in the plan. K. Jensen assured the Board that all large employers except one have made formal commitments to the plan. T. Klitzkie questioned how the City would restrict the use gas blowers.

L. Young recommends the plan include measurements on applicable action goals. Ms. Young noticed the omission of Lake Michigan lake levels in the plan. Is the City monitoring the lake levels? She recommended the plan focus on reducing longer VMT via public transportation and carpooling. She believes that enhancing the public transportation experience would help reduce longer VMTs.

S. Osborne questioned how realistic is 100% renewable energy goal in the plan. K. Jensen stated the goal was focused on electricity. S. Osborne expressed the need for zoning in order to generate more green energy projects.

C. Leblanc-Fisher asked if the City had any leverage or jurisdiction over the schools with regard to the CARP plan. K. Jensen informed the board the City has no jurisdiction over the schools and would be difficult to mandate the school districts meet the goals outlined in the plan. C. Leblanc-Fisher noted the recycling program is being unevenly implemented among residents, downtown Evanston and businesses.

J. Garl believes the EEB should have an ongoing role in terms of implementation. She expressed concern about the green infrastructure and storm water management section in the plan. The plan addresses green infrastructure with such items a tree canopies and tree preservation but doesn't substantially address storm water management.

S. Liddell would like to see the City add an Environmental Justice Board. She would also like the City to explain the upfront costs of investments on green energy projects and the potential ROI in the future. She also would like to see construction projects addressed more prominently in the plan with respect to recycling and reusing materials from demolition. She reiterated the importance of public education on climate change, global warming, sustainability and green infrastructure.

S. Osborne requested all EEB comments be turned in by September 20th.

J. Garl suggested the comments be prioritized in the final version of the comments document.

5. Public Hearing: Draft Climate Action and Resilience

A. Staff Presentation of Plan

K. Jensen presented the CARP draft plan.

B. Public Comment and Feedback Discussion of Proposed Plan

R. Tucci has read the draft plan and believes the plan lacks data. He also stated the plan can be condensed. The plan should provide emissions data in a quantitative way and state specifically how they would be measured. The City should identify who is paying for investment and operating costs in the plan.

S. Stewart expressed concern over the use of gas leaf blower in the City.

M. Berman stated the plan is very sound and thorough but presented the Board with a list of additional suggestions that will be added to the comments section by staff.

K. Alcott sees a problem with recycling in the City. She has observed in her ward recyclable materials in refuse containers due to the lack of sorting or incorrect sorting of those materials. The problem is particularly worse in the City where the student population is more concentrated.

M. West expressed concern about the City's carbon foot print. She wanted to know if the City had a plan to address this issue. K. Jensen explained that there are smaller campaigns to educate on climate change and carbon emissions. He stated the City has reached out to larger groups in the City to better educate them on the impact of climate change and carbon emissions.

6. Adjournment

L. Young moved to adjourn the meeting, T. Klitzkie seconded. S. Osborne adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Next Meeting – Thursday, October 11, 2018