
July 22, 2015

**Boards, Committees,
and Commissions**
2014 Annual Reports

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Boards, Committees & Commissions Update

In November 2014, the Rules Committee recommended to City Council the implementation of a Boards and Commissions Communications and Training Plan to improve coordination of various boards, committees, and commissions (“Groups”). Staff from the City Manager Office worked with the each group’s staff liaison to implement components of the plan.

The Communications and Training Plan

- Sign up all current and new members of the Groups for the City’s e-news, City Council agenda e-news and e-newsletters from appropriate areas covered by their groups
- Each Group, if applicable, will submit an annual report to City Council and post it to the committee webpage
- Chairs of each Group will meet with the Mayor and Chair of the appropriate City Council standing committee once a year to discuss issues
- All current and new members of the Groups will receive an electronic copy of the Groups Handbook
- Develop a formal orientation packet to be given to each new member.
- All members attend a general training and review of responsibilities
- All new Group chairs will receive training on how to conduct a meeting and training on other issues related to serving as chairs
- The City Manager will hold an annual meeting for Group chairs.

On April 21 and 24, 2015, the City hosted a general training and review of responsibilities for the Groups, with 84 members in attendance. The orientation was recorded and made available online. Members who were unable to attend in April have been instructed to review the video online and the packet materials. These are located at cityofevanston.org/government/boards-committees/.

In August 2015, staff will begin coordinating meetings with the Mayor and the chairs of the appropriate standing committees to discuss issues. Prior to the end of 2015, the City Manager will host the annual meeting for Group chairs to discuss training and communications feedback and improvements.

In addition to the plan, it was recommended that a City Council liaison be appointed to the Groups that did not have a City Council representative on the committee. See list below:

Committee	City Council Representative
ADA Advisory Board	Miller
Arts Council	Tendam
Board of Ethics	Holmes
Citizens’ Police Advisory Committee	Holmes
Public Safety Civil Service Commission	Rainey
Commission on Aging	Tendam
Committee on Public Place Names	Fiske
Environment Board	Wynne
Firefighter’s Pension Board	Mayor
Human Relations Commission	Miller
Ladd Arboretum Committee	Grover
Library Board	Wynne
Mental Health Board	Grover
Plan Commission	Fiske
Parks and Recreation Board	Wilson
Police Pension Board	Mayor
Preservation Commission	Grover
Sign Review and Appeals Board	Tendam
Design and Project Review Committee	Grover
Taxicab Advisory Board	Not Active
Utilities Commission	Wilson
Zoning Board of Appeals	Wilson



Annual Report Summary

Staff was directed to work with each of the Groups to obtain an annual report, which would be submitted to the standing committee to which it reports. The next section of this report includes the annual reports submitted by the various Groups. The annual reports include several basic components, including purpose, members, staff, meetings, and major issues or accomplishments. The reports vary in length due to the nature of the committees. Many committees meet regularly and manage many programs, while other committees meet infrequently.



Annual Reports

Reports to Administration and Public Works

911—Emergency Telephone System Board

Purpose: In accordance with Illinois Public Act 85-978, in December of 1990 the City of Evanston enacted Ordinance 133-O-90 by referendum. The purpose of the Ordinance was to establish an Enhanced 9-1-1 system. Per the legislature, an Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB) comprised of seven members appointed by the Mayor, with the consent of the City Council, was established. The stated function of the ETSB is to design and implement an Enhanced 9-1-1 system for the City of Evanston and monitor the system once in place.

Members

Board Chairperson: Ald. Jane Grover

Board Members:

Ald. Coleen Burrus

Richard Eddington, Chief of Police

Thomas Janetske, Emergency Preparedness Manager

David Blatt, M.D.

Staff

Greg Klaiber, Fire Chief; Perry Polinski, Communications Coordinator

Meetings

The Emergency Telephone System Board meets bi-monthly on the 4th Thursday. In 2014, the Board met three times (January, May, and September). Three of the six meetings were cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

Meeting Place

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center in Room 2750, the Aldermanic Library

Accomplishments

- The Board received an oral report on the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) 2013 annual filing, as well as 911 call statistics.
- In the past year, the Board reviewed all new State legislation related to the operation and funding of Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) which included creation of the 911 Services Advisory Board with a mandate to submit a report on the future of 911 in Illinois by July 2015.
- The Board oversaw completion of the implementation of a new IP fire station alerting system and received continuous updates on the status of pending projects such as dissolution of direct connect alarm monitoring, Text-to-911, and Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD).
- The Board approved the 2015 Emergency Telephone System Budget.



Liquor Control Review Board

Purpose

To investigate and review all applications and recommend licenses and renewals of liquor licenses in Evanston (108-0-71; 8-0-84)(235 ILCS 5/4-2).

Number Of Members

Five (5) members. Determined by Liquor Commissioner

Members

Mayor Elizabeth B. Tisdahl, Commissioner

Marion Macbeth

Richard Peach

David Skrodzki

Byron H. Wilson

Term: Unlimited

Meetings

As Needed

Meeting Place

Loraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201

Staff Contact

Theresa Whittington, Liquor Licensing Manager, 847-448-8160, twhittington@cityofevanston.org

Accomplishments

The board reviewed applications for eleven (11) new liquor licenses; two (2) requests for a change in liquor licenses class; six (6) requests for amendment to the liquor code (service hours, new licenses class and container sizes); and feedback from wine shop owners regarding the Evanston liquor tax. The Liquor Commissioner and staff facilitated the renewal of 115 annual liquor licenses.



Minority, Women and Evanston Business Enterprise Development Committee

Purpose

To identify and assess the needs of the M/W/EBE community on a regular basis, develop a program to address the established needs of the M/W/EBE community.

Qualifications

Housing and Community Development Committee representative, an Economic Development Committee Representative, an Evanston Chamber of Commerce Representative, Four (4) members from the local business community, and two (2) citizens at large.

Members

Term Expires

Alderman Peter Braithwaite, Chair	
Alderman Mark Tendam	
Stephen Boyd	5/13/2015
Schona Buranda	5/28/2015*
Mahnia Nematollahi Mahani	7/14/2016
William Smith, Jr.	10/14/2015
Donna Su	3/10/2016*
Paul Mark Wallace	5/19/2016
Kathyleen Brooks**	

*2nd Term

** Not applicable - Appointed Rep., Chamber of Commerce

Term

All appointees shall serve terms of two (2) years or until their successors are appointed and confirmed; provided, however, that initially, four (4) members shall be appointed for terms of one (1) year and five (5) members shall be appointed for terms of two (2) years. Members shall not serve more than two (2) full terms.

Staff

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Manager; Tammi Turner, Purchasing Manager; Sharon A. Johnson, Business Workforce Compliance Coordinator; Janella Hardin, Administrative Secretary

Meetings

3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

January 15, 2014	July 16, 2014
February 19, 2014	August 20, 2014
March 19, 2014	September 17, 2014
April 16, 2014	October 15, 2014
May 21, 2014	November 19, 2014
June 18, 2014 Meeting Cancelled	December 17, 2014

Meeting Place

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center - Aldermanic Library, Room 2750



Accomplishments

- Completion, recommendation and City Council approval of Ordinance 60-O-14 Amending the Minority, Women and Evanston Based Employer (MWEBE), and Local Employment Programs (LEP) revising the penalty section from a \$100/per day to a 1.0% of total project value penalty.
 - Additional notable changes to the Ordinance 60-O-14 Amending the City’s MWEBE/LEP Program City Council Meeting October 13, 2014 Item A11 may be found on the City website at: cityofevanston.org/assets/CCAP%2010.13.14%20pg.pdf
- Held meetings with contractors and staff to discuss potential changes to Local Employment Program; In addition to LEP Ordinance modifications, other notable changes implemented:
 - List of training sessions/offer quarterly training sessions to LEP participants to provide certification for job placement and improve skills.
 - Updated of LEP database; database contains the names of local residents who have expressed interest in employment on City public works projects.
 - Provided contractors with step by step “How to Comply” insert in all City Bid/RFP/Q documents and include “Important” watermark on MWEBE/ LEP exhibits.
- MWEBE participation on City projects reached 28% (program goal is 25%)
- MWEBE participation on City projects includes:
 - 23 Minority Owned Business; 19 Women Owned Business; 22 Evanston Based Businesses; 3 Disadvantage Owned Business
- Established Workforce Reserve Account; Collected over \$34,000 LEP fines
- 2014 Local Employment Program
 - City and NU Workforce Development collaboration
- Provides Evanston residents with a clear path to qualify for and attain employment on campus construction, renovation and maintenance projects as part of Northwestern University’s and the City of Evanston’s Workforce Development Program.
- Approved Budget included an expanded Business Workforce Development Compliance position.
- Held annual Procurement 101 Workshop on January 10, 2014.



Public Service Civil Service Commission

Purpose

The Public Service Civil Service Commission certifies candidates for original appointment of entry-level police officers and firefighters in accordance with the Civil Service Act, 65 ILCS 5/10-1-1 et seq. The purpose of the Commission is to promote fair and equal treatment and equal opportunity under the law.

Member Terms

The Mayor, with the approval of the City Council, shall appoint seven (7) persons who shall constitute and be known as the Public Safety Civil Service Commission. The Commission shall annually, on the first meeting of the year, elect a Chairman. Those holding office at the time of the effective date of this Ordinance shall continue in office until the expiration of the terms to which they have been appointed. After the expiration of the terms of the existing Commissioners, the Mayor shall, in like manner, appoint person(s) as the successor(s) of the respective Commissioner whose term will expire that year to serve as such Commissioner for three (3) years and until his/her successor is appointed and qualified. At the discretion of the Mayor, each Commissioner may be reappointed for just one (1) additional term. The Human Resource Division Manager or assigned designee will function as the secretary for the Commission.

Members

Chair John Paul Schmidt
Fred Tanenbaum
Dina Berne
Douglas Whitmore
Mary Erickson
Vacant (2)

Staff

Jennifer Lin, HR Division Manager

Meetings

The Commission held six (6) scheduled meetings.

Accomplishments

The Commission completed interviews and approved 12 candidates for hire as Police Officers. The Commission also revised its rules for the entry-level firefighter process to be consistent with Illinois' new Firefighter Hiring Act and approved other amendments to the Public Safety Civil Service Commission Rules.



Transportation/Parking Committee

Purpose

The Committee shall study the intermediate- and long-term parking and transportation needs of the City, with consideration of environmental issues and shall provide to the City Council recommendations to solve parking and transportation problems. (13-R-15)

Members

Nine (9) members appointed by the Mayor; four (4) members shall be members of the City Council; two (2) members shall be Evanston business owners or Evanston residents; one (1) shall be an Evanston resident with multi-modal transportation experience; one (1) shall be an Environment Board Parking Committee Liaison and one (1) shall be a Planning Commission Parking Committee Liaison (13-R-15).

Staff

Martin Lyons, Assistant City Manager/CFO; Rickey Voss, Revenue/Parking Manager

Meetings

4th Wednesday of every month, 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Place

Morton Civic Center, Room 2402

Accomplishments

- Moved to approve a parklet sponsored and managed by Hewn, an artisanal bakery, for two parking spaces located at 810 Dempster Street for a proposed period of four years (through 2018) for seasonal use.
- Purple Line Express Pilot; The CTA has approved a six-week pilot program to test an additional evening round-trip Purple Line Express train between Davis Street and the Loop. The purpose of the pilot is to address a need for later express service for employers in Evanston, as well as Chicago. The pilot is currently set to begin in June 1st through July 10th. The pilot run would make all local stops in Evanston and run express between Howard and Belmont.
- Pilot Program—Residential Parking District ‘R’; Designate 45 diagonal parking spaces on the east side of Sheridan Square as Residential Parking Permit Only as a 24-hour restriction for Residential Parking District ‘R’ and continue the restricted overnight parking from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. for the remainder of Residential Parking District ‘R’.
- Created a 3-hour parking zone on the west side of Sheridan Square and on Keeney Street from east of Sheridan Road to Sheridan Square, exempting those that display a permit for Residential Parking District ‘R’.
- Designated the 16 diagonal parking spaces at the beach area to be regulated by parking meter or time limit parking with no Residential Parking District R daytime exemption.
- Opened a dialogue with the CTA and Metra to provide warming stations and other amenities for passenger use, especially during inclement weather.



Utilities Commission

Purpose

To protect and promote the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens, businesses and institutions of Evanston, it is necessary to participate in the planning and improvement of electrical, natural gas, telephone, water and sewer services in Evanston to insure reliable and competitive service. Members of the Commission will listen to citizens' concerns. (49 0-93) (103-0-93).

Qualifications

Members must be familiar with the utility industry, must have engineering/finance experience, and must be familiar with the regulations of the various industries. Members must be Evanston residents or work in Evanston.

Number Of Members

Seven (7) members appointed by the Mayor.

Members	Term Expires
David Everhart	08/20/2018
David Grumman, Vice-Chair	10/24/2015
Marcella Landis	02/14/2015
Richard Lanyon, Chair	02/28/2015
Jonathan Nieuwsma	07/09/2016
Eric Rosenberg	05/13/2017
Mark White	02/25/2018

Term

Four (4)-year terms. Members may serve no more than two (2) terms.

Staff Contact

David Stoneback, Director of Utilities, **847-448-4311**,
dstoneback@cityofevanston.org

Council Liaison

Alderman Donald Wilson

Meeting Date

2nd Friday of each month at 7:15 a.m.

Meeting Place

Evanston Water Treatment Plant, Large Conference Room (555 Lincoln Street).

Meetings

January 10, 2014
February 14, 2014
March 14, 2014
April 11, 2014
May 9, 2014
June 13, 2014
July 11, 2014
August 8, 2014
September 12, 2014
October 10, 2014
November 14, 2014
December 12, 2014



Accomplishments

The commission maintains continuous **oversight of utility competitiveness and reliability** through monthly reports and discussion at regular meetings and occasional meetings with utility representatives. The commission believes that it has been instrumental over the years in increasing the reliability and reducing the cost of utility service for electricity, natural gas, and sewer and water.

Community aggregation has been successful in reducing the cost of electricity for Evanston residents and small businesses. The commission worked closely with the Utilities Department and Office of Sustainability in preparing the requests for proposals and reviewing the proposals received. A three-year contract which started in August 2014 was awarded to Homefield Energy and will reduce the cost of electrical service for residential and small business customers in our community over its duration. The electricity supplied under the contract will be offset by renewable energy credits (RECs) from wind farms, providing a significant reduction of emissions, which will help meet the goals of the City's Climate Action Plan. The source of electricity is 100% green.

Similarly, the commission worked with the Utilities Department and Office of Sustainability on the **City's electricity contract**. The three-year contract with MC2 began in June and will save the city the cost of electrical service compared to ComEd's rates and is also offset by RECs, which will reduce emissions. The source of electricity is 100% green.

To further assist the city in achieving its Climate Action Plan goals, the commission has initiated a program for **benchmarking** energy efficiency in buildings. Benchmarking has already been adopted in a number of other cities nationwide. The first phase will apply to large commercial buildings. Over time, benchmarking can be applied to other types of buildings. The commission will present its program to the City Council on March 16, 2015.

The City pays Commonwealth Edison for **street lighting** based on Illinois Commerce Commission rules. The electrical energy used for street lighting is not measured, but is based on the rated lighting fixtures for set hours of operation and unit costs. The commission is proposing to measure a few select street lighting circuits to determine if the calculated costs of street lighting are representative of actual electrical energy usage and costs and ensure that the City's installation of energy-efficient lighting is rewarded. However, the commission has yet to perform any measurements since it was first necessary to reconcile the City's street lighting records with those of ComEd. This in itself was a valuable exercise.

The commission worked with the Utilities Department to make **water bills** more user-friendly and contain more helpful information for the customer, starting with bills issued early in 2014.

The commission is also working with the department in preparing a water usage management application which will encourage customers to use water more efficiently by allowing them to track and manage their water use information on-line.

Funding

Funding to support commission meetings and projects is incidental to the budget of the Utilities Department. The commission does not give or receive grant funds.

Awards and Special Events

The commission has not received any awards, does not give awards and does not hold special events. The commission applauds the Utilities Department for conducting public tours of the water treatment plant and for its public outreach efforts, stressing water conservation and the production of high quality drinking water.

Acknowledgment

The Utilities Commission acknowledges the support of the City Council and staff, as well as the Utilities Department and the Office of Sustainability.



Reports to Human Services

ADA Advisory Board

Purpose

To protect and promote the public health, safety, and welfare of all citizens, it is necessary to provide for an organizational structure to aid and advise the City in pursuing its ongoing commitment to make the City and its programs, services, and activities accessible to all individuals, including individuals with disabilities. In addition, the ADA Advisory Board assists City with accessibility and ADA-related issues, and assists the City with the production of ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Updates.

Members

S. Newman
B. Logan
R. Shure
S. Canter
J. Prindiville
J. Hickman
L. Biondi
S. Bowie

Staff

S. Nagar
A. Khatkhate
C. Plante
J. Williams-Kinsel

Meetings

The ADA Advisory board met twice in 2014 (March 13 & November 13) to discuss the accessibility needs of the community. The Public Works staff presented the ADA strategy implementation, which is listed below:

Construct ADA accessible ramps/upgrade existing access as part of infrastructure improvement projects. These projects include street resurfacing, streetscape, sidewalk, park improvements and facility upgrade projects. Sean Ciolek will replace Sat Nagar as the ADA Advisory Board Staff beginning in 2015.

Recommendations

- The Morton Civic Center ADA access should be improved
- ADA access units should be part of all new developments
- Temporary ADA access during construction must be part of the construction management plan
- The City should make the ADA accessible improvements as part of all infrastructure improvement projects



Arts Council

Purpose

The Arts Council is a 12-member council with two vacancies at this time. The Council functions to encourage the involvement of citizens in the arts and to aid the coordination of private and public cultural activities.

Goals

- Advocacy: To promote, expose, and ensure accessibility to the arts in Evanston.
- Business and Economic Development: To support arts initiatives that position Evanston as a cultural arts destination.
- Collaboration: To facilitate collaboration between individuals, artists, sponsors and spaces.

Members

Lisa Degliantoni, Co-Chair
Sergio de los Reyes, Co-Chair
Greg Allen
Helen Axelrood
Carole Bass
Anne Berkeley
Judith Cohen
Fran Joy
Gay Riseborough
Dino Robinson

Staff

Jennifer Lasik, Cultural Arts Coordinator

Meetings

The Arts Council met nine times in the 2014 calendar year. The Arts Council regularly takes off the months of August and December. The Council did not meet in June due to the lack of a quorum.



Accomplishments

In the past year, the Council has worked with City staff on the following items, some of which are still in process:

- Seventh Annual Leadership Award was presented to Koi Fine Asian Cuisine & Lounge at the Mayor's State of the City Address.
- The first Bright Night for the Arts, where the Arts Council and the Mayor presented the Mayor's Award for the Arts to two parties nominated by the public: Jack Weiss of Design Evanston and etc. Music School. The Arts Council aims to make this an annual event, culminating and celebrating the arts community's accomplishments.
- Art After Hours was started as a way to keep the arts community and their connections in conversation throughout the year at quarterly evening social and networking gatherings.
- The Winter HeARTh Series was developed, allowing Evanston residents to participate in community-sourced public art installations in the winter months.
- Jennifer Lasik lobbied a group of consultants to revise the Cultural Fund Grant Program, including members of the Arts Council. Members of the Council and other volunteers are currently reviewing applications for the three grants from an application pool that tripled in size from previous years.
- The Arts Council adopted promotion of Open Studios Evanston, headed by current co-chair Lisa Degliantoni, as an annual or twice-annual event, featuring Evanston artists and visits to their studios across the city.
- The Public Art Committee, a subcommittee of the Arts Council, was dissolved due to waning membership. The remaining members and the Committee's priorities were adopted as part of the Arts Council.
- Illinois Arts and Humanities Month (October) was celebrated throughout Evanston. The Evanston Arts Council produced a brochure promoting local arts events and performances and also sponsored the "Expressions from the Heart" exhibition of artwork by disabled artists at The Noyes Art Gallery.
- The Arts and Business Committee, a subcommittee of the Arts Council, was placed on hiatus to determine its best use and proper priorities. Backstage Evanston was removed from Arts Council's responsibilities and will be managed by a third-party committee.



Board of Animal Control

Purpose

The Board shall review monthly reports from the Animal Organization and the Chief Animal Warden in order to set priorities and to give feedback to the Council related to issues regarding animal control and the City animal shelter. The board will also be responsible for coordinating fundraising efforts for the Animal Shelter Fund.

Members and Staff

The Animal Control Board of Evanston is currently comprised of six (6) members and is expected to meet quarterly to discuss matters related to animal care and control within the City of Evanston and at the Evanston Animal Shelter (EAS) facility.

Meredith Rives (Chair)

Jill Cabot (Vice Chair)

Diane Valleta

Ruth Ann Hladish

Jane Grover (Alderman)

Judy Fiske (Alderman)

Aretha Barnes (Deputy Chief EPD)

James Pickett (Commander EPD)

Meetings

17 meetings; 5 were canceled due to lack of agenda

Accomplishments

- The Board created both brief and expanded mission statements for the Evanston Animal Shelter.
- All Board members were given the BCC handouts and signed up for the City emails. Board members will be attending the upcoming BCC review in April 2015.
- The Board formulated the Request for Proposals in order to search for a new Volunteer Animal Organization (VAO) and presented the RFP to the City Council.
- The Board made presentations at the Human Services Committee.
- The Board reviewed the Evanston Police Department's Animal Control Standard Operating Procedures in order to revise it.
- The Board began Evanston Animal Shelter (EAS) fundraising efforts by designing collection boxes and placing them in various locations throughout Evanston.
- The Board evaluated management software for potential use at the Evanston Animal Shelter.

The Board continues to meet regularly in 2015 and expects to accomplish the following by year's end:

- Recommend a VAO to the Human Services Committee
- Review and update the City's Animal Control Policy
- Revise the Board's title and description
- Review current City animal ordinances and recommend revisions or additions as necessary
- Continue to oversee activities at the EAS



Citizens' Police Advisory Committee

Purpose

To review all formal and informal complaints against police officers.

Members

No less than four (4) to not more than nine (9) residents of the community with one (1) person from each ward and no more than two (2) citizens coming from any one ward.

Meetings

The Office of Professional Standards meets with members of the Citizens' Police Advisory Committee (CPAC) once a month. The committee participated in 12 scheduled meetings.

Accomplishments

In 2014, a total of 37 cases were reviewed. After the review process/session, the results are forwarded to the Human Services Committee.

- Of the 37 cases that were reviewed, there were eight (8) instances where the members' votes were **not** unanimous (21.62%).
- In the above mentioned instances, six of the eight were debates over the disposition of "unfounded" (*allegations were false or no credible evidence to support the allegations*) vs. "exonerated" (*incident occurred but was lawful or proper*)
- The remaining two instances were debates over the disposition "**not sustained**" (*insufficient evidence to prove or disprove the allegations*) vs. "exonerated."
- When the members of the Committee did not agree on the final disposition, the members voiced their opinions and noted on their packet their desired disposition.
- There were no instances where the committee entered a decision of sustained vs. not sustained



Commission on Aging

Purpose

The Commission shall consist of fifteen (15) members appointed by the Mayor, with the advice and consent of the City Council. At least one-third (1/3) of the Commission on Aging shall be age sixty (60) years or over. Eligible members include residents of the City and non-residents of the City who are employed within the City limits, except members cannot be a paid staff member of any City agency or organization serving seniors.

Mission

The mission of the Commission on Aging is to promote the welfare and betterment of the seniors of the city. The Commission on Aging is necessary to achieve the following objectives:

- (A) Insure that the aging population will continue to be regarded as productive, responsible, and contributing members of society;
- (B) Advocate for the retention of all rights, privileges, and protections for seniors;
- (C) Assist seniors in the maintenance of their dignity, self-respect, and independence;
- (D) Educate the community and enlist support and participation of all citizens about those needs;
- (E) Provide the opportunity for seniors to express their desires and advance their causes; and
- (F) Provide a voice to speak for that portion of the aging population unable to advocate on their own behalf and provide an organizational structure which can accomplish such ends.

Members

Jane Wickenkamp, Chair**	Mary Signatur, Vice Chair**
Susan Canter, LTCC Chair** (AF)***	Rita Sheinin**
Wayne Heimbach** (AF)	Barbara Roberts
Beverly Shearer**	Bonnie Lockhart
William Green	Catherine O'Brien**
David Sutor	Susan Morse

Staff

Audrey L. Thompson

**denotes LTCC Members

***Volunteer Ombudsmen

(AF) denotes Age Friendly Evanston Task Force Committee Member

LTCC – Long Term Care Committee

2015 Planned Meetings

All meetings will be held in the Levy Center Library unless otherwise noted.

January 8, 2015	February 5, 2014
March 5, 2015	April 2, 2015
May 7, 2015	June 4, 2015
July 9, 2015	No meeting in August
September 3, 2015	October 1, 2015
November 5, 2015	December 3, 2015



Goals

1. Increase overall awareness of Commission on Aging activities, services, and programs

Objectives:

- 1) To conduct eight Commission on Aging (COA) meetings in the community (i.e., Evanston Public Library, senior communities, long term care communities, public venues, churches, synagogues and other religious institutions, etc.)
- 2) To keep informed on senior provider agencies by having eight agencies present resource information at eight COA meetings;
- 3) To participate in two outreach activities to increase awareness of COA;
- 4) To keep informed on issues that arise that require COA advocacy by attending at least two advocacy events annually.

2. Conduct Community Educational Events

Objectives:

- 1) To complete two major community wide educational events
- 2) To sponsor at least eight educational events in senior housing communities and other public venues

3. Conduct site visits to Evanston long term care communities

Objective:

To conduct site visits to eight of the long term care communities in Evanston

4. Continue support of Ombudsman Program by building overall Volunteer Ombudsman Program

Objectives:

- 1) To recruit and train three additional volunteer ombudsmen;
- 2) To ensure that one volunteer ombudsman is assigned to each Evanston long term care community

Accomplishments

Educational Events

<i>Senior Services Programs</i>	King Home	January 8, 2014
<i>Money Smarts: Be A Know It All</i>	Levy Center	April 3, 2014
<i>Fair Housing;</i>		
Viki Rivkin of Open Communities	Primm Towers	April 15, 2014
	Jacob Blake Manor	May 27, 2014
Medication Safety Presentation, Screenings and Health Fair	Perlman Apartments	July 24, 2014
Medication Safety Presentation, Screenings and Health Fair	Walchirk Apartments	July 24, 2014
<i>Quality Medical Care: How to Get It</i> (Geriatrician, Victoria Braund, MD and Elder Care Attorney, Eric Parker)	Levy Center	September 18, 2014
Tips Every Consumer Should Know	Perlman Apartments	November 24, 2014



Rotation of Commission on Aging Meetings

Ebenezer Primm Towers (1001 Emerson)	April 3, 2014
Evanston Public Library (1703 Orrington)	September 4, 2014
The Merion (1611 Chicago Ave)	November 6, 2014

Senior Provider Presentations

Steve O’Sullivan, License & Measures Inspector, City of Evanston	April 3, 2014
Jeff Prussack and classmates, Kellogg students at Northwestern University	May 1, 2014
Center for Disability and Elder Law	September 4, 2014
Caroline Edasis, Mather Pavilion Art Therapist, “Aging Well Through Art Therapy”	November 6, 2014

Long Term Care Facility Site Visits

The Mather	March 27, 2014
King Home	May 29, 2014
Three Crowns Park	July 24, 2014
The Merion	October 23, 2014

Volunteer Ombudsman Recruitment and Training—seven volunteers currently

Level I Ombudsman Training	January 21, 2014 and February 11, 2014
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Environment Board

Member	Term
Todd Schwier (Chair)	4/4/2017
Hugh Bartling	5/27/2018
Ellen King	10/11/2014
Linda Young	2/24/2018
Tom Clark	11/26/16
Samuel Headd	4/4/17
Kevin Glynn (Co-Chair)	32/24/2018
Marcus Banks	11/17/2018

Meeting Place

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave., Room 2200

Accomplishments

The Evanston Environment Board has helped in modifying, creating, and supporting several environmental initiatives including:

- Supporting a Fresher Walgreens for Green Bay Road.
- Creating a Coal Tar Ban Memo highlighting the dangers of coal tar use on driveways and properties.
- The creation of a subcommittee to address environmental justice issues such as the Veolia Transfer station.
- The drafting of a letter of support to stop nuclear waste around the Great Lakes.
- Aiding in creating better biking practices and ordinances around Evanston and supporting initiatives such as the Divvy program.
- Supporting the creation of safe and accessible bike parking in Evanston for both residential and commercial spaces.
- Supporting the City's plastic ban bag.
- Supporting infrastructure initiatives such as the City's use of permeable concrete and Multi-Family Recycling Pilot program.

Goals

In 2015, the Environment Board plans to continue supporting all initiatives that aid and sustain healthy environmental practices. The Board also will expand the Environmental Justice subcommittee to include many pressing issues facing lower income residents, as well as give a greater perspective on how the environment and justice can both reinforce and support the other. The Board will work diligently with many City departments to continue addressing biking, waste, and other issues. The Board will also seek to expand membership and participation through collaborative efforts of existing members and reaching out to organizations around Evanston.

Meetings Planned For 2015

January 8* (No Quorum)
February 12
March 12
April 9
May 14
June 11
July 9
August 13
September 10
October 8
November 12
December 10



Human Relations Commission

Purpose

The purpose of the Human Relations Commission shall be to foster, encourage and stimulate the improvement of human relations among and between citizens of all races, colors, creeds, national origins, sexes, ages, familial status, marital status, religions, physical/mental disabilities, “sexual orientation” (as defined in Section 5-5-6 of this Code), and economic and educational levels, so as to provide all individuals with an equal opportunity to grow, participate, and share to the best of their ability in our economic, educational, political, social, and judicial systems.

Members and Staff

Tonya Patterson (Chair)
Stephanie Murray (Vice Chair)
Sharon Bowie
Kenneth Rodgers
Leslie Lane-Palmer
Christopher Garcia
Isidro Lucas

Meetings

7 meetings, 1 canceled (lack of quorum)

Accomplishments

- In June 2014, the Commission held a safe summer youth event to update residents on the efforts of the City and partnering organizations to keep Evanston youth safe
- The Commission sought public input via a survey to assess the level of diversity and inclusion in Evanston
- The Commission established the framework for an essay contest and scholarship program to highlight diversity and inclusion in Evanston
- The Commission started the process of developing the framework for a Human Relations Community award.



Ladd Arboretum Committee

Purpose

The purpose of the Ladd Arboretum Committee is to advise and consult with the City Council and the Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services on the development and maintenance of the Ladd Arboretum, on plans for new sections and features of the Arboretum, and on programs for the Ecology Center; to raise funds and seek gifts for the development and maintenance of the Ladd Arboretum and the Ecology Center, and to seek sponsors for the remaining sections of the Arboretum and portions of the Ecology Center to be developed; to approve disbursements of monies raised by the Committee for the Ladd Arboretum; to publicize the Ladd Arboretum and the Ecology Center and their attractions and to promote use by adults, school children and community groups; to take other appropriate actions relating to the development, maintenance, promotion, and use of the Ecology Center and the Ladd Arboretum; and to coordinate with the Lighthouse Park District those development and program services that are provided jointly.

Members

Tom Klitzkie
Barbara DeCoster, Vice Chair
Louise Taylor
Pamela Johnson
Wendy Pollock
Charles Smith, Chair
Antonia Stoimenova

Staff

Paul D'Agostino, Assistant Director of Public Works, Parks/Forestry
Donna Luteri, Special Projects Assistant, Public Works

Meetings

The Ladd Arboretum Committee met six times during 2014. In order to better accomplish its purposes, in November 2014 the Committee voted to begin meeting every month rather than every other month.

Beginning in January 2015, the Committee meets on the third Wednesday of every month at the Ecology Center.

Accomplishments

1. Developed a set of procedures to be followed by those submitting proposals for improvements, changes, or renovations to the Arboretum.
2. Oversaw improvements and repairs to the Aspregren Gazebo, including the removal of the bees and the installation of small trees and plants at that site.
3. Consulted with City staff and made recommendations on proposals for the paving of the Arboretum path.
4. Consulted with City staff and made recommendations for a proposed addition to the Ecology Center.
5. Prepared a list of all marked, dedicated trees in the Arboretum, including GPS coordinates.
6. In cooperation with Burt's Bees, created pollinator gardens within the Arboretum.



Library Board

Purpose

The Board of Trustees of the Evanston Public Library is the governing body of the Library and has all of the powers of a board of public library trustees granted under 75 ILCS (Illinois Compiled Statutes) 5/4-1 et seq. Comprised of nine Evanston residents appointed by the Mayor, and approved by the City Council, the Library Board is vested with the legal and financial responsibility for the operations of the Library. Subject to existing statutes, the powers of the Board include but are not limited to: 1) determining rules and regulations governing library services; 2) exercising exclusive control of all expenditures of money credited to the library fund, and any grant, gift or endowment funds provided for library purposes; 3) determining the property tax levy required to support the Library within the law; and 4) hiring, evaluating and, if necessary, dismissing the Library Director.

Mission

The Evanston Public Library aims to be the heart of the community by promoting the development of independent, self-confident, and literate citizens through open access to cultural, intellectual, technological, and informational resources.

Library Board of Trustees

Diane Allen (Treasurer)
Tori Foreman
Shawn Iles
Margaret Lurie (Secretary)
Vaishali Patel
Benjamin Schapiro
Leora Siegel
Sandra Smith (Vice-President)
Michael Tannen (President)

Staff

Karen Danczak Lyons (Library Director)

Meetings

Number of scheduled meetings: 16
Number of cancelled meetings: 0

Accomplishments

2014: A Year of Powerful Connections

Together we make a smarter, empowered community.

Where Transformative Ideas Meet Engaged Citizens.

African American History Month? Not Enough.

Our “11 Months of African American History” brought more than 900 attendees to: 10 August Wilson plays, 3 lectures from Northwestern’s Humanities faculty, an exploration of North Shore African American history, and a standing-room only discussion of Mary Barr’s book on Evanston’s history of segregation.

Young Minds Tackle New Technology.

The popularity of our Saturday FUSE program has exploded! Teens take on fun and engaging challenges in robotics, electronics, graphic design, and 3D printing. Makers unite! Today’s experiments become tomorrow’s new reality!

We Can End Youth Violence.

Innovative summer programs worked toward change. Using the book “How Long Will I Cry?,” we delved into youth experience with violence. More than 300 free copies were picked up around the city in advance of solution-focused intimate discussion groups in sites around Evanston, readings, teen theater performance and a talk from Cure Violence.



Reducing Stereotype Threat.

“Navigating Real Life Diversity with our Kids” and “Whistling Vivaldi: Identity as a Bridge Between Us” packed the house to explore cultural gaps that divide us. Community leaders facilitated difficult conversations on stereotypes. Together we’re learning skills to confront our biases head-on and move toward real progress.

Where Learners Grow Together

We visit at-risk preschoolers in their classrooms with activities that build key early literacy skills. Parents receive advice on connecting with their kids through reading, talking, and play. **That’s Literacy Education at Play (LEAP).**

Two wins in one: teenagers get summer library jobs and young children get summer reading mentors. **That’s ABC Boosters.**

Adults gather together to read challenging literary works at locations throughout Evanston: That’s **Mission: Impossible.** More than 8,000 adults throughout the year came to lectures, book groups, documentary screenings and discussions, author events and more: **That’s Free Community Education.**

Our Outreach Librarians connect with Districts 65 and 202 school librarians for **Book Talks** and **Library Tours.** Plus our new **Teacher Check Out** program helps students get essential resources they need to do their work: **That’s Effective Public and School Library Collaboration.**

It can be impossible for small, local home daycare providers to bring their little ones to the library, so we make monthly deliveries of high-quality books: **That’s the Home Day Care Book Bag Program.**

Thousands of children and teens made the library a stop this summer, keeping literacy skills strong, creating and making. In a 2014 pilot, our librarians met kids out in City camps to spread the program beyond our walls. Adults came to read, make art, and enjoy music. **That’s the Summer Reading Program.**

250 entrepreneurs gathered to teach and learn from each other on topics from “How to be Self-Employed” to “Entrepreneurial Law” to “Brand Development and Design.” **That’s Next Chapter.**

Where Essential Services Make Lives Easier

The library is free and open to all, making it a welcoming space for the homeless and those with mental illness. In 2014, we established a network of support for our vulnerable residents, establishing weekly hours for **social work interns** in the library.

Twenty local service providers gathered for our first **Special Needs Resource Fair.** This networking event connected parents and professionals for an exploration of local resources and needs.

Understanding the Affordable Care Act is a challenge that we took on full-force with certified **ACA Navigators at the Library seven days a week** to answer perplexing questions and get people signed up for health-care.

The Library is now a tax site where income eligible individuals can get their **taxes prepared and filed for free.** In 2014, 373 households took advantage of this service and received refunds totaling \$521,314.





The Book Bike rolled out to street festivals, parks, free lunch sites, the lakefront, and the West End Market. We bring library cards and books wherever you are.

The Library IS Community. Deepest thanks to our vast network of partners, including

- | | |
|---|---|
| Andy's Frozen Custard | Foundation 65 |
| The Book Stall | Greater Chicago Food Depository |
| Bookends and Beginnings | Harris Bank |
| Becky & Me | Edward Jones |
| Campus Kitchens | Cole Taylor Bank |
| Celtic Knot | Have Dreams |
| Center for Economic Progress | Meals at Home |
| Centro Romero | Muse of Fire |
| Chicago South Asian Film Festival | Music Institute of Chicago |
| Child Care Center of Evanston | National Able |
| Cognizant | Neighbors for Peace |
| Comix Revolution | Northwestern University |
| Connections | Infant Welfare Society of Evanston |
| Council for Jewish Elderly | Interfaith Action |
| Dajae Coleman Foundation | Lyric Opera Corps |
| Daughters of the American Revolution | Peer Services |
| District 65 | Percolator Films |
| District 65 Early Childhood Center; Family Center | Reba Early Learning Center |
| Downtown Evanston | Ridgeville Park District |
| Erie Health | SCORE |
| Evanston Art Center | 2nd Baptist Church |
| Evanston Bicycle Club | Shorefront Legacy Center |
| Evanston Community Foundation | Silk Road Rising |
| Evanston/NorthshoreYWCA | Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity |
| Evanston/Skokie PTA Council | St. Nick's Church |
| Evanston Township High School | Untold Stories Project |
| Evanston Vet Center | Whole Foods |
| Family Action Network | Youth Job Center |
| Family Focus | Y.O.U. |
| Fleetwood-Jourdain | YMCA |

Thank you to the many authors and writers who visited and shared their unique viewpoints, including:

- Ali Abunimah
- Joelle Charbonneau
- Deborah Cohen
- Huey Copeland
- Anna Dewdney
- Candace Fleming
- Laurence Gonzales
- Darlene Clark Hine
- Richard Peck
- Nina Sankovitch
- Kevin Stein
- and Tamara Ireland Stone



Testimonials

“The YWCA Evanston/Northshore is grateful than we can rely on the Evanston Public Library for programming that moves the entire community to a deeper understanding of each other.”

Eileen Hogan Heineman, Director Racial Justice Programs, YWCA Evanston/North Shore

Additional Services & Accomplishments of the Board

Cradle to Career partnership

Donor and Volunteer Recognition Event

Revisions of Services and Facilities Policies

Approval of Matching Funds for Live & Learn Accessibility Grant

Approval of Renovation of North Branch Restrooms

Appointment of Board Liaisons to District 65, District 202 and Oakton Community College

Approval of Library Capital Plan

Approval of Tuition Reimbursement Policy for Staff Attending Library School

Update Library Vision and Mission Statements

Approval of Purchase of Development Database

Board Development – presentation on Library Law

Approval of Lease with Lush Wine & Spirits for 2022 Central Street

Truth in Taxation hearing for FY2015 Levy

Approval of the FY2015 Library Budget and Tax Levy



Lighthouse Landing Committee

Purpose

To share information and facilitate cooperation and coordination among all the groups which have activities and responsibilities in the area around the Lighthouse.

Members

Committee Chair: Alderman Jane Grover

Larry Boswell	Evanston Art Center
Nora Diedrich	Evanston Art Center
Donald Terras	Lighthouse Park District
Pam Elesh	Evanston Art Center Board
Maureen Conway	Garden Club of Evanston
Erica Granchalek	Garden Club of Evanston
Ann McMahon	Neighborhood Representative
Karen Hawk	City of Evanston—Ecology Center
Paul D’Agostino	City of Evanston—Parks/Forestry (Staff representative)

Meetings

The Committee met three times in 2014 on March 5, June 4, and September 17.

Major Issues

The most discussed issue at all three meetings was the impending re-use of the Harley Clark Mansion, along with the Art Center’s plans to relocate. Much of the ongoing discussions centered on the potential of future access to both the site’s open spaces and the potential for public uses of the mansion should the sale of the building to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources work out.

Committee members typically discuss upcoming events at the site, planned construction or major maintenance projects, and any problems or issues that may arise. Members also coordinate their efforts to keep the entire site an attractive and educational destination for Evanston residents and visitors.



Mental Health Board

Purpose

The Board's mission is to ensure the existence of the best possible environment for the promotion of mental health and other human services in Evanston.

The Board

- Oversees programs serving people with, or at risk of having, mental and emotional disorders or problems, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse problems.
- Is responsible for establishing, funding, evaluating, and assessing effective mental health and other human service programs for Evanston residents. These programs must be accessible and responsive to community needs and shall be available to all Evanston residents regardless of ability to pay.
- Shall promote community mental health and other human service system improvement, support and defend those residents with special needs, and educate the community about important mental health and other human service issues.

Members

Allison Stark-Chair (thru June 2014)

Sandi Johnson (vice chair thru June 2014 and then chair)

Karin Reutzler (vice chair July 2014 on)

Joan Taylor

Darlene Eady -Morris

John Barfield

Jessica Wernick

Azhar Harris

Melanie Race (resigned September 2014)

Staff

Evonda Thomas-Smith

Milcah Baraona

Meetings

The Mental Health Board held eleven meetings in 2014 which included two funding hearings. The board canceled their August and December meetings, as there was no business to discuss.

Accomplishments

Throughout the year, Board members provided liaison reports at meetings. Agency representatives attended our meetings and provided citizen comment. This past year has been an especially challenging one for the Board as there has been a move to change the funding process, which means consolidating applications and jointly agreeing on City funding priorities. The Board is moving forward into unknown territory with a new application and changing timelines.

The Board revised the funding application and scoring tool. The Board voted to provide funding applications to two additional agencies, Meals at Home and Curt's Café. Curt's Café did not submit an application.

During the July meeting, Board members voted to recommend funding for 21 programs administered by 15 agencies for the 2015 calendar year. The agencies recommended include: Childcare Network, Childcare Center of Evanston, Connections for the Homeless, Family Focus, Housing Options, Infant Welfare Society, Legal Assistance Foundation, Metropolitan Family Services, Moran Center, Northwest CASA, North Shore Senior Center, PEER Services, SHORE, Youth Organization Umbrella (YOU), and Meals at Home.

Subsequently, the Mental Health Board's funding recommendations were sent to the Human Services Committee totaling \$752,606. Please refer to the minutes of the July 10 meeting for specific agency allocations.



Board members voted to affirm three funding priorities for the 2016 year at the September meeting. The priorities are:

Priority #1: Programs and services to address and reduce youth violence

Priority #2: Programs and services to address mental health needs and substance abuse including preventive services

Priority #3: Programs and services which will enable adults with challenges to meet basic human needs including food, shelter, and access to health care

Board members participated in the fall Human Services Summit which included City Council members, CDBG committee members, agency representatives and City staff.

Submitted by Sandi Johnson



Parks and Recreation Board

Purpose

The Parks and Recreation Board is a 9-member board with no vacancies at this time. The Board functions are to provide for, maintain, supervise and direct all playground and recreation activities for the City of Evanston.

Mission

To advise for the planning, design and maintenance of all playgrounds, parks, recreational facilities and open spaces owned and/or leased by the City of Evanston, as well as to advise for the development, supervision, and operation of all recreational programs and activities operated by the City of Evanston and/or authorized affiliates.

Members

Daniel Stein, President
Randall Mayne, Vice President
Jeffery Brown
John Bryan
David Campbell
Marcus Casady
Amina DiMarco
Hector Garcia
William Logan

Staff

Joe McRae, Deputy City Manager/Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department

Meetings

The Parks and Recreation Board meets on the third Thursday of each month, except for August. In 2014, the Board met eight times and hosted one park/facility tour in August. Two meetings were cancelled for lack of quorum and one for lack of agenda items.

Accomplishments

In the past year, the Board has worked with City staff on the following items, some of which are still in process:

- Robert Crown Center redevelopment project
- Adopt a Park program scheduled to kick off in April
- Possible expansion of the City Code on prohibition of smoking to include all Evanston parks
- 311 signage for parks and park restrooms with hours of operation for restrooms / contact 311 with concerns
- Recommended continuing outdoor skating at the lakefront and Baker Park and moving the outdoor skating from Ackerman Park to the Southwest corner of Bent Park and getting community support to help maintain the rinks
- A board member served on a committee with members of the Ridgeville Park District staff and citizens of Evanston, to explore the possibility of developing a skate park in Evanston.
- Discussed and approved the revised registration procedures for the Dempster Street Boat racks.
- Reviewed the Beach Access program and requested that 300 additional season beach tokens be made available for qualified residents



Reports to Planning and Development:

Citizens' Advisory Committee on Public Place Names

Purpose

The Citizens' Advisory Committee on Public Place Names consists of 5 members and has no vacancies at this time. The Committee was created with the intention to serve as a forum for taking into consideration the needs of the community and the historical background involved in naming public places. However, the power to actually name public places rests with the City Council, with the Committee making recommendations in its advisory capacity. The Committee also administers the Honorary Street Name Sign program, which was established to allow citizens the opportunity to honor people who have made significant contributions to the City.

Members

Seth Freeman
Kris Hartzell
Stephanie Murray
Daniel Stein
Eden Pearlman

Staff

Joe McRae, Deputy City Manager/Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department

Meetings

The committee meets in February, May and November (as needed) to review and consider requests. Two meetings were scheduled in 2014 to review and consider Honorary Street Name Sign applications.

Accomplishments

The committee reviewed and recommended City Council approval of two Honorary Street Name Signs: Hecky Powel Way and Shakespeare Founders Way.



Homelessness and Housing Commission

Purpose

To provide for the planning, expansion, maintenance, conservation, and rehabilitation of Evanston's housing stock and to be responsive to needs for change in housing-related matters to the end of maintaining a diverse residential environment and to conserve property values within the community and to combat homelessness.

Members and Staff:	Term Expiration
Ald. Mark Tendam	
Kevin Kane, Chair	April 2017
Sue Calder, Vice Chair	June 2015
Rick Morgan	October 2016
Noelle Gilbreath	July 2017
Sidney Caselberry	June 2015
Ellen Cushing	February 2017
Sandra Hill	June 2015
Geri Palmer	October 2016
Heather Harker	October 2016
Moika Long	July 2017

Meetings

The Housing and Homelessness Commission is scheduled to meet once monthly on the fourth Friday of the month. The group met nine times during January, March, April, May, June, July, September, October, and November. Meetings were not held if a quorum was not present or there was a lack of agenda items.

Accomplishments

- Recommended and approved modifications (proposed by Commissioners Calder and Kane) to Inclusionary Housing Ordinance
- Move-in kits for HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) households (created by Commissioner Morgan) were delivered
- Approved \$18,500 to Alliance to End Homelessness application for HMIS database
- Working group meetings facilitated with African American Ministerial Alliance to discuss options related to emergency shelter initiatives for evenings of extreme cold
- Approved Housing Opportunity Development Corporation application for \$25,000 towards 319 Dempster security cameras
- Approved Community Partners for Affordable Housing application for \$300,000 to rehab 1620 Washington
- Approved \$150,000 HOME loan to Housing Authority of Cook County request to rehab the nearly 200 units at the Pearlman and the Walchirk
- Re-oriented Commission efforts associated with the following working groups: Analyze Gaps and Resources; Education and Outreach; Community Collaborations; Analyze Revenues
- Completed Affordable Housing tour (coordinated by Commissioner Cushing)
- Approved \$35,000 renewal grant to Open Communities so Evanston Landlord Tenant Program could continue



Plan Commission

Purpose

To conduct public hearings for Planned Developments, Zoning Ordinance Map and Text Amendments and Unique Use applications; formulate basic policies for a Comprehensive Plan; initiate studies concerning present and future development and redevelopment of the City; and prepare recommendations for the annual revision of the Capital Improvement Program relative to the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan. (City Code 2-7-5-3)

Regular Members

Scott Peters (Chair), Richard Shure (Vice-Chair), Lenny Asaro, Terri Dubin, Jim Ford, Carol Goddard, Colby Lewis, Andrew Pigozzi, Kwesi Steele.

Associate (non-voting) Members

Seth Freeman, David Galloway, Stuart Opdycke.

Staff

Damir Latinovic, Neighborhood and Land Use Planner; Lorrie Pearson, Planning and Zoning Administrator; Mario Treto, Assistant City Attorney.

Letter From the Chair

This note is written in my capacity as Chairman of the Evanston Plan Commission during 2014 and as a member whose second term will end next month. During the six years I have served on the commission, I have always been impressed by the staff. I particularly commend current staff members, Lorrie Pearson, Damir Latinovic, and Melissa Klotz, who have always done fine work under the direction of Mark Muenzer. Also, Michelle Masoncup and Mario Treto of the legal department. As an attorney and urban planner, I have opportunities to interact with staff in other local governments and the people I have worked with in Evanston are really excellent. I also commend my fellow commissioners whose comments and discussion about the issues have proven educational and wise.

In the last year, the Plan Commission work has been more extensive than appears in this short letter. But Commissioners have been willing to come to early morning meetings and additional night meetings and I believe the Commission's work has been done with reasonable speed and the quality of the decision making has been good.

The Commission gets direction from the Council's actions on legislation relating to land use and, on occasion through the comments of Council members who have provided comments at Plan Commission meetings. Of course, this is useful. However in my opinion, Commission would benefit from additional direction from the Council regarding the downtown area. This is because the Council adopted a new downtown plan but the Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance that would have implemented the plan were never adopted.

By this letter, I thank the Mayor and Council for the opportunities I have had serving on and chairing the Evanston Plan Commission.



Meetings

Second Wednesday of each month, plus special meetings on a per need basis: 01/08/14, 02/12/14, 02/26/14, 03/12/14, 04/09/14, 05/14/14, 06/11/14, 07/09/14 (cancelled due to lack of agenda items), 07/23/14, 08/13/14, 09/10/14, 10/08/14, 11/05/14, 11/12/14, 12/10/14 and 12/17/14

Major Cases

- 1515 Chicago Avenue Hyatt House Hotel - Planned Development
- 835-849 Chicago Ave Planned Development
- 2454 Oakton St. - Evanston Sports Dome - Planned Development
- 1571 Maple Ave. - Planned Development
- Main St. Station TOD Study
- 12 Zoning Ordinance Text or Map Amend

Plan Commission Committees

- I. Zoning Committee: reviews Zoning Ordinance Text and Map Amendment applications on a per need basis. The Zoning Committee provides a recommendation to the Plan Commission.

Members: Richard Shure (Chair), Terri Dubin, Jim Ford, Carol Goddard, Colby Lewis and Scott Peters

Meetings: Third Wednesday of each month on a per need basis: 02/19/14, 05/21/14 and 10/15/14

- II. Comprehensive Plan Committee: reviews updates to the Comprehensive General Plan for the City of Evanston on a per need basis. The Comprehensive Plan Committee provides a recommendation to the Plan Commission.

Members: Scott Peters (Chair), Lenny Asaro, Terri Dubin, Seth Freeman, Jim Ford and Richard Shure

Meetings: Second Wednesday of each month on a per need basis: 01/15/14, 02/11/14 and 05/13/14

- III. Rules Committee: conducts periodic reviews of the Administrative Rules and Procedures for the Plan Commission. The Rules Committee provides a recommendation to the Plan Commission.

Members: Scott Peters (Chair), Lenny Asaro, Jim Ford and Colby Lewis.

Meetings: 7:30 AM Fridays on a per need basis: 10/31/14



Preservation Commission

Purpose

The Evanston Preservation Commission is responsible for carrying out and implementing the goals and processes within Evanston's Historic Preservation Ordinance, by encouraging and promoting the economic and general welfare of the City and its citizens through educational programs for the public on the benefits of historic preservation; and by protecting the architectural, historical and cultural resources of the City of Evanston.

Mission

Promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the City by:

- (A) Identifying, preserving, protecting, enhancing and encouraging the continued utilization and the rehabilitation of such areas, properties, structures, sites and objects having a special historical, community, architectural or aesthetic interest or value to the City and its citizens, as described in 65 ILCS 5/11-48.2-1.
- (B) Safeguarding the City's historic and cultural heritage, as embodied and reflected in such areas, properties, structures, sites and objects determined eligible for designation by ordinance as landmarks and historic districts;
- (C) Fostering civic pride in the beauty and noble accomplishments of the past as represented in such landmarks and districts;
- (D) Protecting and enhancing the attractiveness of the City to homeowners, home buyers, tourists, visitors, businesses and shoppers, and thereby supporting and promoting business, commerce, industry and tourism, and providing economic benefit to the City;
- (E) Fostering and encouraging preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of areas, properties, structures, sites, and objects, including entire districts and neighborhoods, and thereby preventing future urban blight and urban deterioration;
- (F) Fostering the education, pleasure, and welfare of the people of Evanston through the designation of landmarks and districts;
- (G) Encouraging orderly and efficient development that recognizes the special value to the City of the protection of areas, properties, structures, sites, and objects as landmarks and districts;
- (H) Continuing the preparation of surveys and studies of Evanston's historical and architectural resources and maintaining and updating a register of areas, properties, structures, sites, and objects that may be worthy of landmark designation; and
- (I) Encouraging public participation in identifying and preserving historical and architectural resources through public hearings on proposed designations, work applications, and economic hardship and special merit applications.

Members

Diane Williams, Chair	5/13/2016
Jack Weiss, Vice Chair	10/14/2016
Karl Vogel, Secretary	11/11/2016
Elliott Dudnik	12/8/2017
Julie Hacker	11/17/2017
Sally Riessen Hunt	11/11/2016
Amy Riseborough	10/14/2016
Tim Schmitt	11/17/2017
Garry Shumaker	3/26/2015*
Scott Utter	4/10/2015*

Associate Members

Mary Brugliera
Anne O. Earle
Emily Guthrie
Kris Hartzell
Dian Keehan
Anne McGuire
Mary McWilliams

Staff

Carlos D. Ruiz, Preservation Coordinator

*Second Term



Letter From The Chair

Dear Mayor Tisdahl:

Attached is the Annual Report for Evanston's Preservation Commission. The Commission's 2014 work included the following notable accomplishments:

- Receiving a \$37,240 Certified Local Government, or CLG, grant from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency to conduct an inventory of Evanston's designated landmarks not located within any existing local district and record landmark designation on the real estate title. The contract for this work was approved by the City Council on February 9, 2015. The project will start this spring.
- Organizing successful Preservation Month activities in May 2014. These activities included:
 - A May 31 roundtable on the links between historic preservation and sustainability.
 - The May 27 Preservation and Design Awards, recognizing eight (8) of Evanston's recent and best historic preservation projects. The Commission hosted a reception for the recipients following the Awards ceremony.
 - One of these May 27 awards was a Lifetime Achievement Award to Evanston's Donald Terras.
- Implementing process changes to ensure greater efficiencies for staff and the Commission as we conduct our reviews.
 - The electronic submission of applications for Certificates of Appropriateness.
 - An improved process for administrative review, enabling staff to approve projects incorporating the Commission's suggestions for improvements to their applications and for certain applications clearly meeting Ordinance standards.

Most gratifying from the Commission's perspective (and not often publicized) have been the many compliments from returning applicants who valued and incorporated Commission suggestions. These applicants truly believed that our assistance made their preservation projects better. This also reflects the Commission's view that our work and preservation expertise represents an important resource for Evanston's owners of landmark properties.

For 2015, the Commission plans to complete the inventory and recording project noted above. Activities for the upcoming year are focused on expanding partnerships with other Evanston constituencies. We are in the process of organizing our May Preservation Month activities. Staff and Commissioners plan to increase the Commission's overall engagement with the Chicago Suburban Preservation Alliance, our Commission peers from the Chicago area. The Commission will also host the September 2015 meeting of the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions here in Evanston.

Overall, 2014 was an important year for the Commission. We're now looking forward to an equally successful 2015. As a final note, the Commission would like to thank and recognize our outgoing Chair, Garry Shumaker, for his many contributions to the Commission's work and success over the last five years.

Sincerely,

Diane C. Williams
Garry Shumaker
Current Chair
Outgoing Chair



Meetings Planned

The Preservation Commission conducted all 12 meetings as planned. The monthly meeting is on the third Tuesday of the month, unless re-scheduled:

January 28, 2014	*August 26, 2014
February 18, 2014	September 16, 2014
March 18, 2014	October 21, 2014
April 15, 2014	November 18, 2014
May 20, 2014	December 16, 2014.

June 17, 2014
*July 22, 2014

() The July and August meetings were re-scheduled in advance.*

Accomplishments

A) Major Projects

In 2014, the Preservation Commission reviewed and approved Certificates of Appropriateness for the following projects:

728, 730 and 732 Lincoln Street; 2360 and 2370 Orrington Avenue; and 707 and 711 Colfax Street.

North Shore Builders, developer. Seven single family homes for the Kendall Place development (former Kendall College site). The projects include the construction of single family homes with attached or detached garage/coach house and perimeter fence.

1880 Campus Drive—Kresge Centennial Hall (within Landmark Lot of Record)—Northwestern University, owner. This project includes the expansion and reconstruction (5 stories) of the east wing, repair of existing exterior walls, and removal of existing windows, new windows, and new building entry and lobby on west elevation.

B) Issues

Solar Panels:

The Preservation Commission supports projects that include sustainable materials, such as installations of equipment such as solar panels as means to reduce climate change. Beginning in 2013 and into 2014, a number of applications for solar panels for thermal or electric systems have been submitted for installation on landmarks and buildings within historic districts. Depending on the location, visibility and installation methods, some of these applications could represent a challenge to the Preservation Ordinance standards for review. City staff has provided contractors with information from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Park Service on the appropriate locations of solar panels when installed on landmarks and buildings in historic districts.

C) Programs

A Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant for \$37,240 was applied for and received from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. This grant will inventory 477 Evanston landmarks not located in existing historic districts and record landmark status for these 477 properties with Cook County Recorder of Deeds. This grant requires a 30% City match. The City's match component of the project budget includes \$11,970 in-kind (i.e. City staff time and the contribution of qualified volunteers) plus \$3,990 in cash. These surveying and recording activities will be completed in 2015.



D) Special Events

May 27, 2014

Preservation & Design Awards Program. Eight recent projects received a Design & Preservation Award and Don Terras, the Grosse Point Light House Keeper, received a Life Achievement Award. A reception, hosted by the Commission, was held following the presentation of the Awards and recognized these honorees for their important preservation projects.

May 31, 2014

Preservation and Sustainability Roundtable. This educational session was structured as a community discussion on the interrelationship of preservation and sustainability and how both benefit from each other. Attendance was close to 80 people.

E) Ongoing Partnerships

Over the years, the Preservation Commission has partnered with the Evanston History Center (EHC) and the Preservation League of Evanston (PLE). Both organizations will participate providing valuable services to the Preservation Commission with the inventory and recording of 477 Evanston landmarks.

F) Projects Reviewed

In 2014, the Preservation Commission and staff reviewed 317 applications for Certificates of Appropriateness. Projects ranged from fences, roofs, new garages, and minor and major additions, to construction of new single-family homes and improvement projects at Northwestern University.



Sign Review and Appeals Board

Purpose

The Board shall be composed of five (5) members appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the City Council. Two (2) members of the Board shall be experienced or actually engaged in graphic design arts. One member shall be engaged in the field of advertising and two (2) additional members shall be principals engaged in business in Evanston, which are not involved in graphic or design arts or advertising. In making appointments to the Board, the Mayor shall seek to appoint as members persons possessing qualities of impartiality and broad judgment, who are recognized as experienced in matters of aesthetic judgment and perception by virtue of training, education and experience (such as architects, landscape architects, land planners, sign contractors, graphic designers or persons specifically qualified by reason of education, training or experience in the area of graphic or allied arts), and persons with training or experience in marketing and advertising.

Members

Marnie Kadish, Chairperson
Susan Felts
Thomas Keith
Paula Bodnar Schmitt
David Wolkowitz

Staff

Scott A. Berg, Plan Reviewer

Meetings

The Sign Review and Appeals Board (SRAB) meets on a monthly basis to hear variance requests to the Sign Ordinance (Ord. No. 100-0-87; Ord. No. 8-0-12, (448-0-11(exh. AA§4-10-1)) 11-23-2013). The Sign Review and Appeals Board has met 6 of the 12 months, missing the months of February, March, May, July and October and November. These meetings were canceled due to a lack of agenda items.

Accomplishments

The Sign Review and Appeals Board heard 10 requests for relief from the adopted Sign Ordinance and based on the discussions at the board meetings and the recommendations from the DAPR (formerly SPAARCC) committee, the Sign Review and Appeals Board approved 8 variances and denied 2.

While adhering to new City policy, in 2014 we provided all members with documents supporting their role on a City board, including: State of Illinois Open Meetings Act provisions, City of Evanston Code of Ethics, City of Evanston Guidelines for Citizens serving on Boards, Commissions and Committees (BCC) and Robert's Rules of Order Parliamentary Procedures.

In the upcoming year, the Board, with the support of staff, will begin drafting various text amendments to include language for signage that is not currently addressed in the ordinance and will present for discussion and approval.

Funding

Sign Review and Appeals Board does not currently receive or manage any grant programs.



Letter From the Chair:

In 2014, the Sign Review and Appeals Board (SRAB) met six times, with six monthly meetings cancelled due to a lack of variance requests from Evanston businesses.

We were able to work with the majority of local merchants to find acceptable solutions to their signage needs and constraints, approving signage in eight of the ten requests.

The SRAB had two personnel changes of note this year. In May, Scott Berg replaced Walter Hallen as Plan Reviewer and staff support for the committee; and in August, David Wolkowitz was appointed to the committee, filling an open spot and bringing the SRAB back to the required five (5) board members.

Please refer to the 2015 Annual report for additional accomplishments over the past year as well as upcoming plans for 2015.

Sincerely,

Marnie Kadish, Chairperson



Zoning Board of Appeals

Purpose

The Zoning Board of Appeals, or ZBA, is a quasi-judicial board that conducts public hearings on a bi-monthly basis. The responsibilities of the ZBA are to:

- Approve, approve with conditions, or disapprove any application for major variation and any combined application for a major and minor variation, except when such application pertains to off-street parking and loading, or building height beyond 50 feet.
- Approve, approve with conditions, or disapprove any application for a family necessity variation.
- Hear and make recommendations to the Planning and Development Committee of the City Council regarding any application for a major variation pertaining to off-street parking and loading, and building height beyond 50 feet.
- Hear and make recommendations to the Planning and Development Committee of the City Council regarding any application for a special use (except a planned development).
- Hear and decide any appeal from Zoning Administrator decisions regarding any application for a minor variation and fence variation.
- Hear and decide any appeal from any order or final decision made by the Zoning Administrator in the administration or enforcement of the Zoning Ordinance, except for an appeal of a decision based on the review and recommendation of the DAPR Committee.
- Hear and decide or make recommendations on any other matters referred to it by the City Council.

Members

ZBA members serve a maximum of two five-year terms, and are appointed by the Mayor.

Member	Term Expiration
Myrna Arevalo.....	09/08/2019
Mary Beth Berns.....	04/28/2019*
Violetta Cullen.....	11/11/2018
Andrew Gallimore.....	09/26/2016
Scott Gingold.....	11/23/2019*
Beth McLennan.....	04/16/2017
Matt Rodgers (Chair).....	06/13/2016*

*second term

Staff

Melissa Klotz, Zoning Planner
Lorrie Pearson, Planning and Zoning Administrator
Mario Treto, Assistant City Attorney II



Letter from Chair

Madam Mayor and Members of Council:

ZBA has become a more efficient board over the past 12 months. The board focuses on the specifics of an application and doesn't become distracted trying to redesign an applicant's proposal. Neighbor comments are always welcome but are limited to the issues in the application. Most of our decisions in 2014 were decided by a unanimous vote, which may have been achieved by placing reasonable conditions on the proposal.

ZBA is comprised of citizen planners with backgrounds in urban planning, architecture, law and design, and three members are in their second term. Board members bring unique perspectives, and they approach land use issues based on personal experience, an understanding of the Zoning Ordinance and respect of owners' rights.

The greatest challenge facing the ZBA last year was its ability to make quorum and to conduct business. It also affected its role as a determining body, because any case must be decided by four votes. When it became a problem in mid-summer, the decision was made to address chronic absenteeism. At the end of the year, ZBA adopted new rules which included a means of removing members whose absenteeism interferes with the operations of the board.

One of the other changes addressed in the new rules was the addition of a vice chair—Beth McLennan. Although the chair is appointed by the mayor, the vice chair is elected by the board. This addition will help in succession of board leadership and build a stronger board.

Board members had the opportunity to attend the American Planning Association, Illinois Chapter meeting in Evanston last fall. The all-day citizen planner session was informative and permitted the sharing of information with other volunteer commissioners and professionals in land-use planning. After hearing the challenges in other Illinois communities, it became apparent how fortunate Evanston is to have dedicated staff—Melissa Klotz, Lorrie Pearson and Mario Treto—that is accessible to ZBA members and especially to have legal counsel available to answer our questions during hearings.

Finally, ZBA would like to work closely with Plan Commission and City Council to strengthen the Zoning Ordinance. Being the board which hears the majority of requests for land use variations, ZBA often sees where there are gaps in the Ordinance, and if deemed necessary, will raise areas of concern with commissioners and aldermen.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt J. Rodgers
Chairman, Zoning Board of Appeals



Meetings

Meetings are typically scheduled for the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

January 7, 2014	Canceled—lack of items
January 28, 2014	
February 4, 2014	Canceled—lack of items
February 18, 2014	Canceled—lack of quorum
March 4, 2014	
March 18, 2014	
April 1, 2014	
April 15, 2014	
May 6, 2014	
May 20, 2014	
June 3, 2014	Canceled—lack of quorum
June 17, 2014	Canceled—lack of quorum
July 1, 2014	
July 15, 2014	
August 5, 2014	
August 19, 2014	
September 2, 2014	Canceled—lack of quorum (rescheduled)
September 9, 2014	(rescheduled from September 2, 2014)
October 7, 2014	
October 21, 2014	
November 4, 2014	
November 18, 2014	
December 2, 2014	Canceled—lack of items
December 16, 2014	

13% (three meetings) of the 2014 meetings were canceled due to a lack of items, and 17% (four meetings) were canceled due to a lack of quorum.

All ZBA meetings are public hearings. Neighboring property owners within 500 feet of subject properties receive mailed public notices explaining the request, hearing date, and staff contact. Hearings are broadcast live on television and available on YouTube.



Accomplishments

In 2014, the ZBA heard 53 cases comprised of the following:

Special Use Permits (24 cases)

Use	Business Name	Address
Type 2 Restaurant	Asia Express	1009 Davis Street
Type 2 Restaurant	Just Turkey	2430 Main Street
Commercial Indoor Recreation	Little Beans Café	430 Asbury Avenue
Drive Through Facility	Little Beans Café	430 Asbury Avenue
Type 2 Restaurant	Starbucks Coffee	1901 Dempster Street
Drive Through Facility	Starbucks Coffee	1901 Dempster Street
Type 2 Restaurant	Kung Fu Tea	726 Clark Street
Type 2 Restaurant	Frio Gelato	1701 Simpson Street
Commercial Indoor Recreation	Precision Multisport	2114 Jackson Avenue
Type 2 Restaurant	YoFresh Yogurt Café	635 Chicago Avenue #7
Ground Floor Residential		1413-1415 Howard Street
Scoreboards	Northwestern University	1501 Central Street
Type 2 Restaurant	Blaze Pizza	1737 Sherman Avenue
Commercial Indoor Recreation	Goldfish Swim School	2008 Dempster Street
Commercial Indoor Recreation	Tier One Training	1017 Davis Street
Animal Hospital	Teuber Veterinary Services	1815 Central Street
Type 2 Restaurant	Doc Popcorn	1613 Sherman Avenue
Daycare Center	Child Step by Step Learning Academy	1909-1911 Howard Street
Type 2 Restaurant	800 Degrees Neapolitan Pizzeria	812 Church Street
Type 2 Restaurant	Beth's Little Bake Shop	1814 Central Street
Type 2 Restaurant	Patisserie Coralie	600 Davis Street
Single Family Dwelling		1513 Greenleaf Street
Commercial Indoor Recreation	The Barre	Code 604 Davis Street
Type 2 Restaurant	Domino's Pizza	911 Foster Street
Wholesale Goods	Few Spirits	2308 Main Street
Type 2 Restaurant	Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches	1241 Chicago Avenue

54% of all special use cases in 2014 were applications for Type 2 Restaurants, and 21% of all special use cases were applications for Commercial Indoor Recreation. All special use cases were recommended by the ZBA for approval with conditions, and received approval with conditions by City Council.

Major Variances (28 cases)

Type of Variance	Requested Number of Variances Requested
Setback from Property Line	32
Impervious Surface Coverage	7
Building Lot Coverage	6
Number of Parking Spaces	6
Location of Open Parking	3
Fences	2
Lot Size	2
Distance between Structures	2
Number of Dwelling Units	1
Height	1

Most variance cases requested more than one variance at a time. Minor Variance requests (such as fences) are not heard by the ZBA unless they are concurrent with cases that request Major Variances. Variances are often approved in part to decrease the requested amount of nonconformity to the minimum change necessary to achieve the objective requested.



Appeals (1 case)

Type of Appeal Outcome:

Fence—Originated as a Minor Variance request for a fence in the front yard, street side yard, and over the permitted fence height and opacity in the front and street side yard. The Minor Variance was approved in part by the Zoning Administrator, but the height and opacity variances were denied. The original Minor Variance was approved in part for a 4' fence in the front and street side yard with the opacity of a wrought-iron style fence. The applicant appealed the decision in hope of the 6' height being approved. The ZBA upheld the height denial, but approved a maximum opacity of 50% to allow for a slightly more “closed” fence style.

Appeals typically arise from denied Minor Variance cases. Staff attempts to work with applicants to modify variance requests that are extensive, overly burdensome to adjacent property owners and/or the community to find a compromise that achieves the objective requested, making an appeal unnecessary - though a compromise is not always possible.

Major Issues:

In general, the ZBA is a well-functioning board. In 2014, two major issues arose.

Quorum:

4 meetings, or 17% of the year's meetings, were canceled due to a lack of quorum.

One specific case was continued due to a lack of 4 concurrent votes, which is required for either approval or denial when the ZBA is the determining body. The case was continued for multiple meetings since the absent members could not attend, nor could they attend a specially scheduled meeting. The applicant ultimately withdrew the case since he did not foresee his case being resolved in the near future.

Text Amendment for Parking:

One case led some ZBA members to question the lack of a parking requirement when the number of dwelling units was increased but gross floor area was not. The ZBA Chair spoke at City Council regarding the issue, and a text amendment was ultimately approved to change the regulation so that an increase in dwelling units requires an increase in required parking.



Reports to Rules

Board of Ethics

Purpose

The Board of Ethics is a 5-member board with one vacancy. The Board functions are as follows: (a) to provide recommendations to the City Council on revisions to the Code of Ethics; (b) to evaluate, make findings of fact, and issue advisory opinions on questions of possible unethical conduct or conflict of interest; and (c) to provide recommendations on amendments to the City Code rules and procedures to govern review of Code of Ethics complaints; and (d) the Board reviews financial disclosure statements completed by elected officials, appointed board and commission members, and City staff.

Members

Board Chairperson: Mark Sheldon

Board Members:

Kelda Harris-Harty

Rhonda Stuart

Jennifer Billingsley

Staff

Michelle Masoncup, Deputy City Attorney

Meetings

The Board of Ethics meets on a monthly basis and in 2014 the Board met six times (March, April, July, August, October, and November). One of the six meetings was cancelled for lack of a quorum and the remaining five meetings were cancelled for lack of agenda items.

Accomplishments

- In the past year, the Board worked to revise the Board of Ethics Rules and Procedure for issuance of advisory opinions and administration of complaints, which is an ongoing project in 2015 as well.
- The Board reviewed hundreds of financial disclosure statements submitted by elected officials, board and commission members and City staff for potential conflicts of interest and completeness.
- In 2015, the Board will be developing a Frequently Asked Questions guide of common Code of Ethics fielded by Board members and City staff (gifts, discounts, conflicts of interest, etc.).



Special Council Committees

City-School Liaison Committee

Purpose

The purpose of the City-School Liaison Committee is to enable officials of the City government and the two School Boards to confer on a regular basis to achieve community financial coordination and better coordination in other fields of community concern. Reports and recommendations are presented to the City Council and to the School Boards.

Meeting Schedule

Three (3) times during the academic year, or as needed.

Meeting Place

Rotates between Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, Evanston Township High School, and District 65 Joseph E. Hill Education Center.

Reports to:

City Council and District 65 & 202 School Boards

Committee Members:

Alderman Jane Grover

Alderman Mark Tendam

Claudia Garrison, District 65 School Board

Candace Chow District 65 School Board

Bill Geiger, District 202 School Board

Scott Rochelle District 202 School Board

Major Issues

- Community-wide Reading and Literacy Initiative: Focus on reading as a gateway to all learning.
- Cradle to Career: Unified support for mobilizing our community around major issues affecting outcomes for Evanston youth ages birth to 23.
- Youth and Young Adult programs: Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program, Summer Camps, Summer School, and City youth outreach efforts.
- Homeless Youth and Families in Evanston: Concern over a substantial year-over-year increase in homeless students in both Districts.
- Transportation, Parking and Public Works issues around schools
- Safe School Zone at District 202 and regular safety updates
- Geometry in Construction Project at ETHS: Over the course of a year, students receive credit for two classes, Geometry and Building Construction, and build a house.
- City Education Committee Initiative: Focus on partnership with City and Oakton Community College



Economic Development Committee

Purpose

To act in an advisory capacity to the City Council on matters of business district redevelopment, including but not limited to the following: 1) to review and make recommendations concerning all redevelopment proposals, provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the sponsor of a rejected proposal from petitioning City Council directly; 2) to use resource persons for assistance and advice on specific proposals for consideration by the Committee; and 3) to gather and disseminate appropriate information regarding the economic vitality of the City. (2-R-81) (4-R-83).

Members

Ald. Ann Rainey
Ald. Melissa Wynne, Chair
Ald. Delores Holmes
Ald. Judy Fiske
Ald. Jane Grover
Ald. Mark Tendam
Ald. Donald Wilson
Ahmadou Dramé (Member-At-Large)
Terri Dubin, Liaison, Plan Commission
Matt Rodgers, Liaison, Zoning Board of Appeals
Jeannemarie Sierant (Member-at-Large)

Accomplishments

The Economic Development Committee prepares an annual review and update to its Economic Development Plan, which can be found online at evanstonedge.com



Northwestern University/City Committee

Purpose

Established through U.S. District Court of Northern Illinois Decree in 2004, the committee addresses:

- (1) The University's proposed demolition of existing structures on, and/or new construction plans for, the University's current T1 and T2 District properties and the University's current U1 District properties (if any).
- (2) Any other issues relating to planning, land use, building and zoning pertaining to the University's current T1 and T2 District properties and the University's current U1 District properties.

Members

First Ward Alderman Judy Fiske

Nim Chinniah, Northwestern University

John D'Angelo, Northwestern University

Thomas Gemmell, Community Representative

David Schoenfeld, Community Representative

2014 Major Issues

- Sheridan Road improvements and proposed bike lanes
- The University's plans for the Roycemore School property
- The University's installation of blue light phones west of Sheridan Road



Housing & Community Development Act Committee

Purpose

To provide advice and recommendations to the City Council on the goals, objectives, and overall policy direction for the City's HUD Consolidated Planning process and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program; to make recommendations to the City Council on the allocation of Community Development Block Grant funds; to monitor the progress of all CDBG-funded programs; to initiate such studies and reports as are necessary for the effective operation of the CDBG program; and to conduct such public hearings as are required and deemed necessary for the gathering of information and ideas related to the Consolidated Plan and the CDBG Program.

Members (9):

Alderman Rainey, Chairman
Alderman Braithwaite
Alderman Burrus
Alderman Holmes
Alderman Wilson
Michele Lacy
Stuart Opdycke
Jeannie Sanke
Vacancy

Staff

Sarah Flax, Housing & Grants Administration
April Jacobs, Grants & Compliance Specialist

Meetings

Meetings held on 3/11, 5/20, 6/24, 9/4, 9/9, 9/23, 10/21

Meetings cancelled for lack of agenda items on 1/14, 2/18, 4/22, 6/17, 7/15, 8/19, 9/16, 11/18, 12/16

Meetings are typically held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm, with the exception of September, when grant allocation meetings take place more frequently.

Accomplishments

- Completion and presentation of Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing
- Completion and recommendation for approval by City Council of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2015 Annual Action Plan
- Allocation of over 35 grants totaling more than \$1,700,000 in 2014 for the 2015 fiscal year
- The members and staff of the committee are working with the Mental Health Board and other City staff and community partners on combining the CDBG Public Services and Mental Health Board grant allocation process for 2016 to align funding allocations to address Council goals more effectively, and streamline administration for the City and funded agencies.
- For a detailed report of annual accomplishments, please refer to the 2014 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), which will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) following approval by the Committee and City Council. The CAPER is the annual report to HUD on the City's entitlement grants and is part of the Consolidated Plan process. The 2014 CAPER may be found on the City website at: www.cityofevanston.org/caper.

Number Of Grants Given and Total Dollars Invested

A total of 36 grants were awarded, with \$1,621,720.78 spent in 2014 on community development projects, including, but not limited to, housing improvements, public services, public facilities and infrastructure improvements, and code enforcement activities.

