



MEETING MINUTES

Evanston Environment Board

Thursday, December 12, 2019

6:30 p.m.

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

Members Present: Cherie Leblanc-Fisher, Wendy Pollock, Jerri Garl, Tom Klitzkie, Michelle Redfield, Caroline Peyer

Members Absent: Sarah Liddell, Christopher Kucharczyk, Ben Kaplan

Staff Present: Kumar Jensen, Leslie Perez, Brittanie Giroux

Guests: Bob Heuer, Karen Bireta, Jim Kotz, Doreen Price, Hal Sprague

Presiding Member: Cherie Leblanc-Fisher

1. Declaration of Quorum

C. Leblanc-Fisher called meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and a quorum was established.

2. Public Comment

B. Heuer from the Democratic Party of Evanston (DPOE) Climate Action Team reported on the City-School liaison committee meeting between the School District 65, 202 and the City of Evanston on the collaboration of cross cutting goals regarding climate action. What was apparent to him was despite the City's efforts around sustainability, the school districts were lagging in their efforts to educate and support CARP implementation. J. Kotz from the DPOE expressed his support for Mr. Heuer.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October

T. Klitzkie motioned to accept minutes as amended, M. Redfield seconded, all approved.

4. Announcements

K. Jensen announcements:

- Alyson Wright's last day with the City is Friday, December 20th.
- In CARP under the municipal operations section, the City is mandated to develop a zero emissions strategy for municipal operations and develop a resolution to go along with that in order to codify. The Utilities Commission is working on the language of the resolution and what buildings are going to be covered by the

resolution. Staff is working on a RFP to hire an outside firm to develop said strategy. The RFP is scheduled to be released to the public in December. Proposal meetings are scheduled for some time in January 2020. The goal is to complete the strategy so they can be incorporated into the 2012 budget and CIP.

- Air quality control study was completed in November. Staff and the Alderman met with the consultants to review the proposed final report. The City determined the report was incomplete and the final meeting was postponed. The contract requires the City to accept the final report in lieu of final payment. Staff was uncomfortable accepting the report as the final piece of work produced by the consultant under this contract. The consultant is working on providing the City with an acceptable final report.

5. 2019 Goal: Implement Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP)

Staff Reports/Updates

A. Approval of Board Bylaws

W. Pollock motioned to accept the Board's Bylaws, M. Redfield seconded, all approved.

B. Approval of 2020 Meeting Schedule

K. Jensen reports the meeting schedule looks the same as it did in November with the exception of a proposed joint meeting between the EEB and the Equity and Empowerment Commission in February (February 13th) to discuss the environmental justice ordinance. C. Leblanc-Fisher motioned to accept the 2020 Environment Board meeting schedule, T. Klitzkie seconded, all approved

C. Climate Equity

K. Jensen reports about various conversations throughout the community regarding how CARP is being implemented particularly between groups focused CARP implementation and groups focused on equity. There seems to be enough overlap and interest between the groups for the potential collaboration. One possible solution for collaboration is the proposed joint meeting between the EEB and Equity and Empowerment Commission is February 2020.

Member Reports/Updates

A. Update Environment Board Goals for 2020

The Board reviewed and discussed the 2019 EEB goal to focus in the implementation of CARP. The two areas of focus were zero waste and green infrastructure. T. Klitzkie proposed the EEB and Health and Human Services Committee communicate more regularly. The Board agreed to more formally discuss this topic in the January 2020 EEB meeting.

B. Subcommittees/Task Forces

a. Waste Working Group

J. Garl and M. Redfield report the subcommittee has chosen recycling and food waste mitigation as the two primary issues to focus on in 2020. The subcommittee is cognizant of the 50 percent diversion rate goal in the CARP

plan by 2025. The Board was tasked by several Alderman to review potential ordinances that would ban the use of plastic straws and bags in the City. The feeling is the effort to ban plastic bags and straws would have little impacted on the reducing solid waste tonnages produced by the City. Furthermore, there would be a potential through these types of ordinances to create negative publicity from the commercial sector and back lash from the community.

b. CARP Implementation Task Force

i. Recommend that the City Council adopt CARP implementation as a 2020 goal and move more aggressively on climate action

J. Garl discussed the EEB memo encouraging City Council to making CARP implementation a priority and to add to the City Council 2020 goals which did not happen. The Task force believes it is largely symbolic until it isn't and then odd budget decisions make reference to City Council priorities and suddenly it has meaning. The Task Force believes it is worth resubmitting and strengthening the recommendation. The Task Force believes the recommendation should directly and effectively recommend that CARP implementation be an official City goal. J. Garl motioned to approve sending memo as amended by co-chairs, M. Redfield seconded, all approved.

C. Phasing out gasoline-powered equipment

a. Recommend that City Council require licensing of businesses that use gasoline-powered equipment, including leaf blowers

T. Klitzkie presented a recommendation intended to lay the groundwork for more stringent regulation of gasoline-powered equipment, including leaf blowers. This addresses a CARP goal that aims to cut carbon emissions. With minor edits (including addition of a research citation) J. Garl motioned to submit memo to Health and Human Services committee for adoption, C. Leblanc-Fisher seconded, all approved. Staff will begin the process of moving it forward.

6. Items for Future Meetings

A. Environmental Justice Evanston – Environmental Justice Resolution

Continued

7. Adjournment

T. Klitzkie moved to adjourn the meeting, W. Pollock seconded. C. Leblanc-Fisher adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Next Meeting – Thursday, January 9, 2019