

**WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 9, 2022**

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held virtually via Zoom Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at 7:00 pm.

**Call to Order:**

Chairperson Dowding called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.; Voting Members present: Chairperson Chuck Dowding, Commissioners David Varca, Ted Wynnychenko, Liz Kunkle, and Patrick Hanley. Voting Members absent: Commissioners Roseann Park-Jones. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Village Council Representative absent: Kim Mancini. Student Representatives present: Scarlett Harper and Marcus Buccellato. Staff Representative present: Diana Puga, Public Works Analyst. Public present: one member.

**1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:**

Chairperson Dowding called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and welcomed all Commission members and the public. Staff Representative Puga took roll call for attendance. Chairperson Dowding reminded the EFC of a webinar opportunity President Rintz shared.

**2) Public Comment:**

The member of the public introduced himself as Brendan Andrew, a new resident in Winnetka who looks forward to getting involved.

**3) Review and Approval of Minutes:**

a) Approval of the January Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Kunkle made a motion to table the approval of the January 10, 2022, minutes until the March 9, 2022, meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wynnychenko.

AYES: VARCA, WYNNYCHENKO, KUNKLE, HANLEY  
ABSENT: PARK-JONES  
NAYS: NONE

**4) New Business, Old Business/Updates:**

a) 2040 Comprehensive Plan

i) Integration Climate Action Plan/CEJA w/ Winnetka Sustainability Chapter

Currently no movement on this item, will re-visit during the March meeting.

ii) Additional Long-Term Goals

Commissioner Wynnychenko elected to focus and expand on land as the additional long-term goal. The Land goal's objective is to improve community access to the lakeshore and stabilizing bluffs and beaches and increasing enjoyment of Lake Michigan. Commissioner Wynnychenko identified the following action items: adopting ordinance barring false information signs along the lakeshore, supporting the Park District in constructing a boardwalk, installation of stairways by riparian owners, and overlooks at street ends. Other Land goals are to utilize the landfill property to full potential, redevelop underutilized properties, and install renewable energy resources on these properties. Commissioner Wynnychenko identified the installation of solar panels on elevated frames as an action item.

Chairperson Dowding elected to focus and expand on the Sustainability Coordinator as the additional long-term goal. He reviewed the need for a position to coordinate the Public Works and EFC webpages, manage the EFC, maintain and manage right of ways and tree maintenance, and more. Chairperson Dowding described how the position could be revenue neutral by requiring a registration fee to landscaper and applicators.

Commissioner Hanley provided some information on how the Village of Northbrook acquired a Sustainability Coordinator through AmeriCorps.

Chairperson Dowding requested the Commissioners reformat their long-term goals as goals, objectives, action-items, partners, funding sources, and timeframes. The Commissioners also selected their long-term goals:

Commissioner Varca: Leadership

Commissioner Hanley: Water and Energy

Commissioner Kunkle: Waste

Student Representative Buccellato: Mobility

Student Representative Harper: Would like to take on a goal but would like to categorize them into the appropriate pillar after.

a) Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Climate Action Plan (CAP)

i) Municipal Resolution Endorsing the 2021 CAP for the Chicago Region

Commissioner Kunkle reviewed the slideshow that was going to be presented during the February 15, 2022, Council meeting.

The Commissioners had a discussion regarding the consequences of being unable to meet the goals identified in the resolution. The Commissioners clarified that they are committing to the principle of reducing the carbon footprint, the action items, and that this is a regional effort, not strictly for Winnetka as a community.

- b) Sustainable Materials Management
  - i) Materials Management Advisory Committee Recommendations  
No report or discussion.

**2) Communications:**

a) Approval of February and March Communication Items

The Commissioners reviewed the Communication Items for February and March which include EFC Green Awards Application, EFC Green Tips: Think Before You Buy and Think Before You Pack, Coal Tar Sealant Reminder, Electronics Recycling Program Resuming, Spring Clean Up Week, EFC Tip: Use Your Car Less, Reduce Vehicle Idling, and Disposing of Food Waste Responsibly. Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the February and March communication items which was moved by Commissioner Wynnychenko and seconded by Commissioner Hanley.

AYES: VARCA, WYNNYCHENKO, KUNKLE, HANLEY  
ABSENT: PARK-JONES  
NAYS: NONE

b) Discussion of April Communication Items

The Commissioners reviewed the January Communication Items which included the Composting at the Village, the Phosphorous Ordinance, and Earth and Arbor Day. Commissioner Wynnychenko also suggested including the Pyrethroid Pesticide communication in April.

**3) Commission/Staff Reports:**

Staff Liaison Puga inquired if the Commissioners were interested in asking Council to consider adopting a resolution for the Mayors Monarch Butterfly Pledge.

**4) Open Forum:** None.

**5) Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Hanley. The motion passed; the meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.