



Agenda
Village of Arlington Heights
Environmental Commission
Virtual Meeting

August 20, 2020
7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting is closed to in-person, public attendance. The meeting is being held virtually, which permits the public to fully participate via their computers or using their phones.

To participate in the virtual meeting, please follow these instructions: <https://bit.ly/30SKqga>

Individuals who wish to comment or ask a question on an item on the Agenda may either participate virtually or send an email to the Village at jbohner@vah.com. Please limit emails to 200 words or less. To be shared at the meeting, the email must be received by 3:00 p.m. on August 20, 2020.

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes from January 22, 2020

IV. REPORTS

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Tree Issues
B. Solar Panel Installation

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Library Display

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Persons with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services, such as an

American Sign Language interpreter or written materials in accessible formats, should contact David Robb, Disability Services Coordinator, at 33 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005, (847)368-5793 (Voice), (847)368-5980 (Fax) or drobb@vah.com.

**Village of Arlington Heights
Environmental Commission
Minutes from January 22, 2020**

I. Call to Order

Chair O'Brien called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present

Chair O'Brien
Commissioner Balga
Commissioner Thompson
Commissioner Malik
Commissioner Jordan
Commissioner Sawyer
Youth Commissioner Kowalczyk
Commissioner McVay

Not Present

Also Present

Jeff Bohner, Staff Liaison
Sarah Noll, ComEd
Paul Miller, ComEd
Melissa Cayer, Resident

III. Approval of Minutes

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER THOMPSON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 19, 2019, MEETING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCVAY AND APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

IV. Reports

V. Old Business

A. Solar Panel Installation

Commissioner Balga introduced Sarah Noll and Paul Miller from ComEd. He had invited the pair to talk about incentives and programs to encourage solar panel installation. Sarah began by saying Federal tax credits for solar installation on residential properties were dropping, starting this year. However, additional incentives include a smart inverter rebate of \$250 per kilowatt hour, net metering reduction and credits for electricity provided to the electrical grid, and State credits mean a 50-60% reduction in installation costs for most new systems. The State credits provide 15 years worth of electric power supply credits to the system owner in the first 4 years of operation. It is important to note these incentives are available to the owners, not renters of property. Commissioner McVay asked if any amount of solar power installation would be beneficial, Ms. Noll said it would, as long as the location was favorable for power generation. Mr. Miller said schools and government buildings are considered businesses for the incentives, except they do not qualify for tax rebates since no taxes are paid. Net metering credits are applied differently on the ComEd bill depending on how large a generator a business is. ComEd is producing education materials for schools and governments, and information should be out shortly.

Mr. Miller told the group about a newer program called community solar. This program will allow residents or businesses to purchase or rent solar panels in solar farms in the ComEd territory. Credits would still be provided for the owner or renter, even though the system is not installed on their property. There are currently several projects being planned, but none with current openings in the area. Ms. Noll and Mr. Miller left promotional material and the Commissioners thanked them for their time and answering their question.

B. Tree Issues

The Chair asked if the Commissioners had received and reviewed the questions the Tree Keepers provided. Commissioner McVay stated the Commission should agree on the questions, and then forward them to Public Works for answers. Commissioner Jordan agreed, saying the questions could then be posed as from the Commission. Commissioner Malik suggested asking Public Works how the Commission could help with the tree issues and letting Public Works answer directly to the Commission before a joint meeting with the Tree Keepers. Commissioner Thompson suggested refining the questions down to 4 or 5 to submit to Public Works, the Chair agreed. Commissioner Sawyer volunteered to ask the Tree Keepers which questions they felt were the most important.

VI. New Business

VII. Other Business

Commissioner Jordan asked for ideas regarding the display case on the Library's main floor to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2020.

VIII. Adjournment

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MCVAY TO ADJOURN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER THOMPSON AND APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.