



Agenda
Village of Arlington Heights
Environmental Commission
Commissions Room

May 22, 2018
7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes from 4/17/18

IV. REPORTS

- A. Army Reserve Center Solar Installation

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Plastic Bag Reduction
- B. Reusable Bag Slogans

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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Item: Minutes from 4/17/18

Department: hhs

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Type
EC April minutes	Minutes

**Village of Arlington Heights
Environmental Commission
Minutes from April 17, 2018**

I. Call to Order

The Commission agreed to appoint Commissioner O'Brien as Acting Chair for the meeting. Acting Chair O'Brien called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

II. Roll Call

Present

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

Not Present

Also Present

Jeff Bohner, Staff Liaison

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Jordan to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2017, meeting, seconded by Youth Commissioner Kowalczyk and approved by unanimous consent.

IV. Reports

The Liaison shared that over 98 pounds of plastic bags had been collected so far in the containers in Village buildings. The bin in Village Hall was busiest, followed by the Senior Center, then Public Works. When full, containers averaged 5 pounds of bags.

Commissioner Balga said he had spoken with managers of the Vail Street Jewel about the program. Both were pleased with the operation, saying contamination of the bags had been low. Discussion ensued about sending a thank you note to the Jewel for partnering with the Village on bag recycling. Commissioner Jordan agreed to draft a letter to be approved and signed at the next meeting.

V. Old Business

Plastic Shopping Bag Recycling

Acting Chair O'Brien stated the Commission should educate residents to not place recycling in plastic bags. Commissioner Sawyer told the group he had placed educational stickers from Groot on several neighbors' recycling totes for that purpose. Several Commissioners asked for more of the stickers.

Commissioner Balga thought that similar material about recycling could be placed in the environmental display at the downtown train station. He agreed to visit the display to brainstorm ideas for additions. Commissioner Malik said he had talked to the Library about putting displays there as well. Commissioner Jordan asked where promotional information was available. The liaison responded SWANCC and Groot. Commissioner McVay agreed to talk to the school districts about getting educational materials to students.

After the Commissioners looked at re-usable shopping bags from Groot, Commissioner Balga asked if they should purchase reusable bags as well. It was agreed that they should. Acting Chair O'Brien asked Commissioners to review possible slogans for the bags. There was discussion about having an art contest to obtain a logo for the bags.

Commissioner Jordan asked about a State Senate bill that would prohibit local plastic bag bans or taxes. The Liaison read portions of the proposed law to the Commission. Commissioner Malik said he thought the bill was designed to create uniformity throughout the State, while Commissioner Sawyer countered, he thought members should contact their State Senators to object. Commissioner Jordan noticed the bill had not moved out of Committee in 6 months, so she thought the Village should go ahead and pass their own ban or tax. There was a general discussion over whether the Village Board would support a ban or tax on bags.

Youth Commissioner Kowalczyk shared an informal poll he conducted at several schools that showed students did not favor plastic bag bans, but were divided on bans or taxes on bags at big box stores. There was narrow support for paying more for a plastic shopping bag.

VI. New Business

VII. Other Business

The Commissioners agreed to meet again on May 22, 2018.

Commissioner McVay informed the group of a document destruction event at Arlington Park on April 28.

VIII. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Commissioner McVay to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sawyer, and approved by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.