



Village of Arlington Heights
Environmental Commission
Commissions Room
Arlington Heights Village Hall
33 S. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
February 9, 2016
7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes from 1/5/16

IV. REPORTS

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Commission Projects/Assignments
1. Water Conservation
 2. Public Outreach
 3. Business/Institution Recycling
 4. Plastic Shopping Bag Ban/Recycling

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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Item: Minutes from 1/5/16

Department: Health Services

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Type
January EC minutes	Minutes

**Village of Arlington Heights
Environmental Commission
Minutes from January 5, 2016**

I. Call to Order

Chair Barry called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

II. Roll Call

Present

Chair Barry
Commissioner McVay
Commissioner O'Brien
Commissioner Jordan
Commissioner Medhat
Commissioner Sawyer

Absent

Youth Commissioner Glasgow

Also Present

Jeff Bohner, Staff Liaison

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner McVay to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2015, meeting, seconded by Commissioner O'Brien and approved by unanimous consent.

IV. Reports

V. Old Business

A. Commission Projects/Assignments

1. Water Conservation

Commissioner O'Brien discussed the rain barrel information he had previously distributed. A newer flyer was now available, showing square barrels. He suggested having multiple options available for residents- barrels available from several vendors. Commissioner Jordan offered to ask local Boy Scouts if they could construct barrels from kits for residents, noting the construction would also count as a service project for high school students. Commissioner O'Brien said the information could be put on the Village web site, library, train station, and distributed to school environmental clubs. Then orders could be taken for the barrels.

2. Public Outreach

Commissioner Jordan handed out information she had compiled regarding plastic bag and film recycling. There was a new recycling logo being printed on plastic bags and film to educate consumers about recycling opportunities. The Commissioners agreed that the piece with pictures was the better of the two flyers and suggested it be uploaded to the Village web site after some minor changes.

3. Business/Institution Recycling

Commissioner Medhat shared a survey he had created for Village businesses about recycling, along with information on waste removal co-ops and waste audits. He said he had received help from the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) in developing the survey. Commissioner McVay encouraged the survey to be distributed at Chamber of Commerce or Downtown Business Association meeting

Commissioner McVay reported that she had contacted School District 214 about their recycling programs. The District has increased their recycling so that over 2/3 of their waste stream is recycled. They have decreased garbage collection from three dumpsters per day at Buffalo Grove High School to one, which has generated cost savings as refuse is collected at \$20 per cubic yard, while recycling is \$10 per cubic yard.

VI. New Business

Chair Barry gave the Commissioners copies of a plastic bag ban ordinance from the City of Evanston, along with their informational brochures. He noted that only retail stores of over 10,000 square feet were included in the ban. He asked if a similar ban would be something the other Commissioners believed was worth investigating for the Village? Commissioner McVay said she believed the Village Board would prefer an educational campaign, not a regulation. Commissioner Jordan noted that along with Evanston, Chicago had recently passed a plastic bag ban. Commissioner O'Brien stated a bag ban would be more enforceable than the Exterior Lighting Ordinance the Commission had previously worked on. There was discussion about plastic bag recycling, with the consensus being that the recycling was not effective and did not capture the majority of bags being handed out. Commissioner Jordan thought there were two possible types of ordinances that could be created- one being a bag ban while the other was a bag fee. She was unaware of any studies to show which approach was more effective. Commissioner Sawyer offered to speak to someone at the City of Evanston to see how their bag ban was progressing. Commissioner O'Brien said the Commission needed to find out how many stores in Arlington Heights were over 10,000 square feet and would be affected by the Ordinance. All agreed to discuss the item more at the next meeting.

VII. Other Business

The Commissioners agreed that the 2nd Tuesday of the month was convenient for future meetings.

Commissioner Medhat told the group that SWANCC was giving a presentation about business recycling and waste reduction on April 26th at the library.

VIII. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.