

**Village of Arlington Heights
Environmental Commission
Minutes from September 10, 2024**

I. Call to Order

Chair Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present

Chair Jordan
Commissioner Jaeschke
Commissioner Skrudland
Commissioner Flores
Commissioner Sawyer
Commissioner Eisenhardt
Youth Commissioner Gil-Lara

Not Present

Also Present

Jeff Bohner, Staff Liaison

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Sawyer moved to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2024, Environmental Commission meeting as amended. Commissioner Skrudland seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

III. Reports

Old Business

A. Gas Powered Leaf Blower Regulation

The Chair showed a copy of the list of positives and negatives of gas powered leaf blower regulations from created by Commissioner Skrudland.

Commissioner Skrudland summarized the report for the group. The pros of regulation were based firstly on noise and nuisance, then environmental and health concerns. The cons started with economic concerns, then possible community resistance and enforcement issues. There was a list of recommendations, which were based on the conclusions of the Regional Leaf Blower Working Group report from the communities on the North Shore. Commissioner Flores was able to find a statistic that was needed for the percentage of gas powered blowers versus electric for residential use.

Commissioner Jaeschke stated he didn't like the idea of grants or public recognition for commercial companies that switched to electric or battery powered blowers as it could be detrimental to smaller companies. The Commission agreed to put the issue into the cons list.

There was a discussion about a recommendation that the Village have an electric or battery powered equipment rental or sharing program, which Commissioner Jaeschke opposed. The Commissioners agreed to leave that in the report, saying the Village Board should be aware of the possibility of such a program.

Commissioner Flores motioned to approve the Gas Powered Leaf Blower regulation report, as amended by Chair Jordan to reflect changes from this meeting, to forward onto the Village Manager. Commissioner Skrudland seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

B. Sustainability Plan

Chair Jordan told the Commission that the Village staff committee had met in June, but has not met since. The liaison shared that the committee members had been updating a previous environmental plan with recent accomplishments. The Chair had offered any assistance the Commission could provide.

C. Landfill Waste Diversion

This issue was tabled for the next meeting.

D. Commission Goals

The Commission agreed to discuss these items again at their next meeting.

VI. New Business

VII. Other Business

The Commissioners agreed to meet again on October 15th.

VIII. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss a motion was made by Commissioner Skrudland to adjourn. Commissioner Flores seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.