

**Village of Arlington Heights
Environmental Commission
Minutes from October 15, 2024**

I. Call to Order

Chair Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present

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

Not Present

Commissioner Jaeschke

Also Present

Jeff Bohner, Staff Liaison

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Flores moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2024, Environmental Commission meeting as amended. Commissioner Eisenhardt seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

III. Reports

Old Business

A. Landfill Diversion & Educational Materials

Chair Jordan had asked for Commissioners to send her some topics to discuss to increase landfill diversion. The three most common topics were increasing composting, reduction of single-use plastics and education of proper recycling and waste reduction.

Commissioner Flores said he had spoken to two members of the Morton Grove Environmental Commission who said their curbside composting program had plateaued in participation recently. Chair Jordan shared that the Village had been talking to Groot and other vendors of the possibility of offering optional year-round composting.

Commissioner Skrudland suggested focusing on the educational component, giving an example of 15 second videos on individual products and if they are recyclable or not. Commissioner Flores also thought the Village should hold an educational talk for the public, with Groot participating. Commissioner Sawyer said SWANCC should also attend any meeting.

The Chair said the short-term focus should be on education. She asked the other Commissioners to each send her some ideas on components of a waste reduction educational campaign for discussion.

B. Sustainability Plan

Chair Jordan told the Commission that she had contacted the head of the Village staff committee and found that the group had not met since the summer. She again offered any assistance the Commission could provide. Commissioner Eisenhardt suggested making the Village Manager aware of the situation at the Board and Commissions meeting later in the month and ask if the plan was a priority for staff.

C. Commission Goals

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

VI. New Business

The Chair stated she would be attending a meeting for Boards and Commission chairs later in the month and asked for suggestions on what to discuss. The Commission agreed that how to provide and receive feedback from the Village Board, how to collaborate between meetings without violating the Open Meetings Act and the sustainability plan should be discussed.

VII. Other Business

The Commissioners agreed to meet again on November 19.

Chair Jordan informed the group that the Gas Powered Leaf Blower report had been forwarded to the Village Manager to send to the Village Board. No questions or other feedback had been received yet.

The Chair agreed to speak to the Mayor about the Commission vacancy and changing the mandated quorum level.

VIII. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.