

**Village of Arlington Heights
Environmental Commission
Minutes from September 16, 2025**

I. Call to Order

Chair Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present

Chair Jordan
Commissioner Porwit
Commissioner Jaeschke
Commissioner Flores
Commissioner Eisenhardt

Not Present

Commissioner Sawyer
Commissioner Skrudland

Also Present

Jeff Bohner, Staff Liaison

Cheryl Waymann, Southminster Presbyterian
Church member
Barb Taylor, Southminster Presbyterian
Church member

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Flores moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2025, Environmental Commission meeting. Commissioner Eisenhardt seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

III. Reports

IV. Old Business

Chair Jordan asked for updates on the Commission projects.

A. Education on how to recycle-

Commissioner Eisenhardt shared a list of recycling educational resources she had found. She thought the recycle coach app and web tool was the most beneficial for explaining what could be recycled, while Groot's website was poorly organized and not maintained. The Commission wanted to contact Groot to get more up to date information available. Commissioner Eisenhardt also provided a list of other environmental organizations in the Village, including schools, churches and the Park District. There was a discussion about keeping the list current and sending it to the group as updates became available.

B. Tracking metrics to be published on VAH website-

Commissioner Porwit reported that he had added information for solid waste generated in 2024 to the graphic and submitted it to the Communication Manager for posting to the Village website. There had been an 18% drop in solid waste generated since 2017.

C. Benchmark Single-Use plastics-

Chair Jordan had shared an updated draft report on the topic. It began with why reducing single-use plastics was important and the lack of current recycling infrastructure. A discussion of state reduction programs was next, followed by the programs local communities have implemented. The report included a

recommendation for a single-use plastic bag ban and fee on single-use paper bags. A recommendation was also included to obtain a baseline number of bags used prior to any implementation to judge the effectiveness. The Chair asked the Commissioners for any changes or edits. There were some minor changes offered.

Commissioner Eisenhardt moved to approve the report, as amended, and forward to the Village Board. Commissioner Jaeschke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Livestream event

Commissioner Flores reported that he had met with the library and they had agreed to host and help with the event next summer. The library will outsource the video and recording of the event, but will help with funding. Sponsors and donations will also be needed.

Commissioner Flores moved to use the Commission's 2026 budget to help fund the livestream event at the library. Commissioner Porwit seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Public Event Education-

Commissioner Porwit spoke about the recent work as greeters at the farmers market. The event had gone well and another 100 reusable shopping bags had been distributed.

F. Increase participation in Curbside Composting-

The programs had been promoted at the farmers market and had been mentioned on the Village social channels over the summer.

G. Re-use Event-

The Chair said this event could be held in conjunction with the livestream event.

V. New Business

Commissioner Eisenhardt suggested a member watch the Village Board meetings for topics that might involve the Commission. Chair Jordan suggested a rotation of members.

VII. Other Business

The Commissioners agreed to meet again on October 21.

Commissioner Jaeschke announced he would be resigning as soon as a replacement could be appointed for him. The other members thanked him for his work and dedication.

VIII. Adjournment

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

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