

**Village of Arlington Heights
Environmental Commission
Minutes from November 25, 2025**

I. Call to Order

Chair Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present

Chair Jordan
Commissioner Porwit
Commissioner Jaeschke
Commissioner Skrudland
Commissioner Flores

Commissioner Sawyer
Youth Commissioner Butler

Not Present

Commissioner Eisenhardt

Also Present

Jeff Bohner, Staff Liaison

Melissa Cayer, Village Resident

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Sawyer moved to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2025, Environmental Commission meeting. Commissioner Skrudland 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 was not available so there were no updates.
- B. Tracking metrics to be published on VAH website-
Commissioner Porwit reported that he was waiting for the solid waste data to be test posted to the Village website to make sure it would load, then other metrics would be uploaded as well.
- C. Benchmark Single-Use plastics-
Chair Jordan shared that the Commission's report had been sent to the Village Board. She would notify everyone when it was going to be discussed.
- D. Livestream event
Commissioner Flores told the other Commissioners he was waiting on final confirmation from the library for the event scheduled for July and instructions for logistics.
- E. Increasing Curbside Composting-
The educational events had taken place over the summer and the Commission is waiting for the year-end participant numbers.

F. Reports on Village Board Meetings-

After beginning with this topic, Ms. Cayer told the Commission that they were proceeding in an order different from the posted agenda. The Chair thanked her for the information. Chair Jordan began with a report on the November 3rd Village Board meeting. No environmental topics were discussed. Commissioner Porwit said the same for the November 17th meeting he had watched. Commissioner Sawyer said he would be watching the December 1st meeting.

V. New Business

Youth Commissioner Butler displayed a design she had created for new reusable shopping bags. After positive feedback from the Commission, she agreed to share the design. Commissioner Flores agreed to contact a bag manufacturer that he had worked with. Commissioner Jaeschke said any manufacturer should be vetted for sustainability and ethical sourcing.

The Chair asked the Commissioners to think about goals for 2026. Some ideas were presented as follows:

- Commissioner Porwit wanted a voluntary program to reduce plasticware in foodservice and possibly include Styrofoam and black plastic take-out containers.
- Commissioner Skrudland said the curbside composting education and livestream goals needed to be continued.
- Chair Jordan agreed, along with continuing recycling education and landfill diversion.
- Commissioner Porwit also suggested educating patrons at Frontier Days.
- Chair Jordan asked if the Village should require sustainability components for new projects. Commissioner Flores responded that there were some, but the Commission should be made aware of what they are.
- Commissioner Jaeschke thought the Village should have updated software modeling for extreme weather events and possible warning systems for residents.
- Chair Jordan ended with a suggestion to benchmark neighboring communities' natural landscaping projects.

VII. Other Business

The Chair agreed to invite a new Trustee to the next Commission meeting.

The Commissioners agreed to meet again on December 16th.

VIII. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.