

**CITY OF WARRENVILLE
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
City Gallery
at City Hall, 28W701 Stafford Place, Warrenville**

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kauth called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Jean-Marie Kauth, Commissioner Bob Kanara, Commissioner Kathy Franke, Commissioner Cecilia Gerber, Commissioner Terri Basch.

Absent: Council Liaison Kathy Davolos

Also present: Staff Liaison David Romero and citizen Bill Weidner

C. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 MINUTES (PDF)

A motion was made by Commissioner Basch to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2022 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Gerber and passed unanimously.

D. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bill Weider shared City Council's plan to discuss the bronze tree ordinance. He intends to submit budgetary line-item requests to fill the canopy gap area and asks the EAC for support with outreach to residents. The EAC could also reach out to nurseries to request species that thrive in urban areas to be available for purchase, provided next year's FY budget is allocated. The City could consider a plan where the cost of trees can be shared with residents. Maps from the treeequityscore.org were used to identify the lowest tree coverage which is 23% in an older region of town near Ferry Rd., followed by 29%-33% west of Rt. 59. The website map does not have enough resolution to identify other gap areas east of Rt. 59, that are in the same tree coverage block as Blackwell or St. James, which likely results in an increase in reported tree coverage.

E. OFFICIALS AND STAFF COMMENTS/REPORTS (PDF)

The rules about commissioners meeting with residents or to do research were clarified. It was determined that up to two commissioners and any number of citizens can meet outside regularly scheduled EAC meetings without violating the the rules established by the Open Meetings Act.

F. BUSINESS OF MEETING

1. Prepare Coal Tar Ban informational letters for mailing; discuss next steps
The commissioners prepared the letters for mailing
2. Discussion of Chicago Region Trees Initiative Bronze Ordinance Template
Staff Liaison Romero reported that Director of Public Works, Phil Kuchler, will start revising the Bronze Tree Ordinance Template and will then ask the EAC for feedback.

3. Review of EAC's FY 2024 Work Plan

Liaison Romero proposed an addition to the work plan to collaborate with the BPAC on Fall Trail/Path Cleanup. This would be like the Ferry Creek cleanup that is done as part of the DuPage River Sweep. The feeling was that the commissioners are already stretched thin with the current initiatives. Even though individual commissioners might contribute, it was decided not to add it to the Work Plan at this time.

Staff Liaison Romero asked for clarification about the proposed Solar Promotion Signage, which was one of the new additions in the FY 2024 Work Plan. The idea was to add signage with information about solar power at the trailhead. Taking into consideration the restrictions from ComEd about obstructions in their easement, it was decided to remove the explicit mention of signage in the work plan, but leave the educational material to support other community information events.

The commission voted unanimously to approve the work plan with the included discussed revisions.

4. Research into a Single-Use Plastic Ban

Commissioner Kanara reported that he reviewed ordinances from other communities and most resorted to charging fees for plastic bags. Other best practices include giving out utensils by request only and banning Styrofoam containers. Next steps might include reaching out to small businesses to gauge their interest and follow up with an informational meeting with stakeholders to request input.

5. Discussion of adding Solar Promotion

Discussion of Solar Promotion will be on a future agenda

6. Planning for Magnolia seedlings Arbor Day 2023 distribution

Discussion of Magnolia seedlings will be on a future agenda

G. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/REPORTS

The EAC has an available monthly spot on the City's Facebook page. The October post by Commissioner Franke was made available. We need to submit a post for November. Chair Kauth will prepare a posting related to Thanksgiving.

H. ADJOURN

Commissioner Franke made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m. seconded by Chair Kauth, and was approved unanimously.

