

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Village Hall, Room 101

Commission Members Present: Liz Lukehart (Chair), Tejas Shah, Kathleen Odell, Cassandra West, Daniel Becker

Commission Members Absent: Darryl Baker

Staff Present: Lindsey Roland Nieratka, Chief Sustainability Officer

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lukehart at 7:00 p.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** A Motion was made to approve the agenda, and it was unanimously approved with no revisions.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** A Motion was made to approve the previous meeting minutes, and they were unanimously approved.
3. **Public Comment:** Phyllis Rubin attended on behalf of the Interfaith Green Network to request information regarding composting services provided by LRS. Ms. Rubin was looking for clarification about what is accepted in the composting services. Ms. Nieratka said she would put Ms. Rubin in touch with Erica Helms, Environmental Services Manager.

Three prospective board members attended the meeting; William Obochowski, Malcolm Mossman, and Samuel Walker.

4. **EEC Chair Discussion:**
Chair Lukehart shared again with the Members that she will be resigning after tonight's meeting and shared the responsibilities and time commitment of chair. There were no volunteers. Members were informed that the next steps will be an appointment by the Village President.
5. **Parkway Ordinance Discussion,**
Ms. Nieratka provided background leading up to the current draft of the Parkway Ordinance and answered questions about enforcement and outreach. A Motion was made to recommend the Village Board of Trustees adopt the ordinance as written and was unanimously approved.
6. **Plastic Bag Working Session**
Ms. Nieratka showed the most recent data on the plastic bag fee revenue. The Commission discussed options including additional outreach and increasing the bag fee. Members decided that they would look at examples of other

communities with bag fees and develop survey questions to gather input from the community about plastic bag use.

7. Earth Month Updates

Ms. Nieratka provided an update on Earth Month activities, all which are listed on the Village's website: <https://www.oak-park.us/Community/Sustainability-Resilience/Sustainability-Events>

8. Sustainability Updates

- Ms. Nieratka shared that the RFP for the Electric Shuttle Feasibility Assessment is on the consent agenda for the March 11 Board meeting.
- Shared an update from the Environmental Services Manager regarding the open RFP for the waste composition study and shared that the Village is discussing with the school districts the possibility of using schools as sites for compost drop off.
- The Board agreed to move the April meeting to April 8 so as not to conflict with the election.

9. **Adjourn:** At 8:10 p.m. a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.