

Environment & Energy Commission
Minutes of the May 10, 2016 Meeting
Oak Park Public Library, 834 Lake Street

PRESENT: Commissioners: Nick Bridge, Hanna Kwiecinska, Alex Frank, Andrew Basney and Erin Daughton

ABSENT: Carolyn Cullen (on phone), Townsend Bailey and Michael O'Rourke

STAFF: Karen Rozmus

The April 5 minutes were approved unanimously.

Chairperson Report: Chair Bridge reported that he attended a PlanItGreen adhoc committee to discuss the possibility of solar installations at Triton College or as a part of the Eisenhower project. He also reported that there are still ongoing discussions of expanding the Blue line to the west as part of the expressway project. Commission Frank asked if there was a status update on the sustainability cooperative discussions.

Staff Reports: Staff report from Karen Rozmus was accepted. Ms. Rozmus also reported that the first electronic recycling event is scheduled for June 25.

Public Comment: Julie Samuels made a brief presentation on the Edible Garden Co-op and said they are seeking volunteers to offer yard space for similar gardens. She also reported that Trader Joes is wasting energy with their open refrigerators and that they use Styrofoam for a lot of their packaging. She also stated that the Village should be more proactive in preventing volcano mulch around parkway trees.

Discussion Items

A. Pesticide Awareness

Chair Bridge reported that brochures and 40 yard signs were distributed at Earth Fest.

B. Plastic Bag Ordinance

Ms. Rozmus reported that she met with the Village Manager's office and is gathering some information on bag usage at large generators in Oak Park.

C. Tabling Schedule

Members signed up for slots at the Day In Our Village event on June 5.

Old Business: None at this time.

New Business: None at this time.

Adjourn: 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Karen Rozmus