

**Village of Oak Park
Environment & Energy Commission (EEC) – Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2020**

Location: Village of Oak Park Village Hall Room 124

Attendees: Laura Derks (Chair), Stephen Morales (Commissioner), Scott Friesen (Commissioner), Mark Goldberg (Commissioner), Ravi Parakkat (Commissioner), Timothy Thomas (Commissioner), Crystal Hodges (Commissioner), Mindy Agnew (Staff Liaison)

Call to Order: 7:03pm – The February 4, 2020 meeting of the Village of Oak Park Environment & Energy Commission (EEC) was called to order.

➤ The January 7, 2020 minutes were reviewed and discussed by the committee members.

MOTION: A motion to approve the minutes was made, Commissioner Friesen seconds the motion.

Agenda Item: Chairperson’s Report

Chairperson Derks modified the agenda to include a review of a proposal for solar represented by Commissioner Friesen, and to add a promotion on energy efficiency during Earth Month made by Commissioner Parakkat.

Chairperson Derks also announced the addition of two new commissioners, Timothy Thomas and Crystal Hodges. Both Commissioners provided introductions on their professional backgrounds and interests in joining the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Trustee Arti Walker-Peddakotia requested clarification on what will be discussed during study session on Monday, Feb. 10. Specifically, what will be done with sustainability fund. Trustee Walker-Peddakotia made a recommendation to clarify the order of implementation on projects under sustainability fund, providing exact steps. Trustee Walker-Peddakotia also requested reporting on Greenhouse Gas EPA data. Lastly, Trustee Walker-Peddakotia requested commissioners 1. Investigate the feasibility of divestment from fossil fuels under village investments portfolio. 2. Asked commissioners to request trustee support in passing a resolution for the “Energy Innovation and Carbon Tax” federal bill, stating Trustee Andrews and Trustee Moroney were already in favor.

Pam Tate spoke about her activity with Climate Reality, lobbying for the Climate Reality Project. She requested the Commission support of the CEJA bill: promoting CEJA lobbying efforts, including the lobbying day March, 4th. Ms. Tate also expressed her interest in becoming a commissioner and how she submitted an application for the Commission.

Pat Klutz returned, providing a plan of action answering questions that were posed at the last meeting in January regarding his proposal for an ordinance requiring all spec houses to install some form of renewable energy. Questions answered included some regarding working around the free market and how ordinance can be negotiated and/or avoided.

Agenda Item: Staff Report

Mindy reviewed the study session to take place on Monday, February 10. Mindy also provided more information regarding the Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program: providing the assessments that were done between 2011 and 2013 for the Rental Rehab Program. A discussion followed regarding the eligibility requirements, how many current households met those requirements, the limitations on how much funding a resident can receive, and who gets credit for the savings, owner or tenant. Staff Liaison Agnew requested a motion by the end of session regarding the Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program.

Discussion / Action Items carried over from January 7, 2020 Special Meeting

Solar Proposal

Commissioner Friesen shared a previous proposal for a framework on the expenditure of Aggregation Funds, specifically towards the installation of solar panels. A discussion going over the different monetary options to pursue, the types of facilities to prioritize, and contract risk considerations took place. Liaison Agnew went over other options that would lead to 100% renewable energy for the Village.

MOTION: A motion in support of encouraging solar investment projects that would not otherwise take place, have staff produce a recommendation as part of the village's sustainability investments to look at having a minority investment program or grant program with private investment for solar installations within the village.

Chairperson Derks motioned and Commissioner Friesen seconded.

Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Friesen to move forward with the income eligible program for one year, after which the program would be evaluated for effectiveness based on measurement and reporting. Motion seconded and all in favor.

Earth Day 2020, 50th anniversary

Commissioner Parakkat stated his interest in working with ComEd to promote energy efficiency programs for Earth Day. Mindy agreed to work with Commissioner Parakkat regarding the promotion that would include communications to reinforce participation in the programs.

MOTION: A motion was made to adjourn by Chairperson Derks and Commissioner Goldberg seconds the motion. No further discussion. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 9:43p.m.