

**CITY OF WARRENVILLE
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, September 16, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.
at the Warrenville City Hall Gallery Conference Room
28W701 Stafford Place**

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dolan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair Rita Dolan, and Commissioners Sarah Anderson, Bob Kanara, Jean-Marie Kauth, Carl Schmidt

ABSENT: Guy Vaccaro

ALSO PRESENT: Council Liaison Kathy Davolos, Staff Liaisons Jennifer McMahon and Alma Morgan, and guests Atique Ahmed and Kathy Franke

ALSO ABSENT: None

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Schmidt made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 2014 meeting; it was seconded by Commissioner Anderson and unanimously approved.

D. STAFF REPORT

- Staff Liaison McMahon presented information on smart meters and amending the zoning ordinance to all for more chickens.
- The Library will be hosting an informational seminar by Elevate Energy. This information can be included in the letter to the homeowners associations that the EAC will be sending out.

E. BUSINESS OF MEETING

1. Approval of the 2015 Meeting Calendar

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the 2015 Meeting Calendar, motion seconded by Commissioner Schmidt seconded, which was unanimously approved.

2. Review Information Re: Zoning Ordinance and Chickens

Commissioner Schmidt recommended accepting the proposed zoning ordinance language in Staff Liaison McMahon's September 16, 2014, memo with the removal of item a: *no more than 4 chickens shall be allowed on a property*, and the addition of item d: *every person maintaining a pen, coop, building, yard or enclosure for chickens shall keep such area clean, sanitary and free from all refuse*. Commissioner Kauth seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Review Draft Letter to HOAs Re: Energy Impact Illinois

The Commissioners felt this letter was acceptable and directed staff to mail it out to the homeowners associations.

4. Prepare Information Re: Smart Meters

Commissioner Kauth reviewed the information on smart meters and stated that there is some reason for concern, commensurate with cell phone EMF, which has been linked to certain kinds of brain cancers and lesser effects. She recommended that there be a true opt-out for residents who are concerned, particularly about children who may be more susceptible to risk.

Chair Dolan said that risk is a personal choice with a wide range. Some things are safe for most people but not for sensitive people. Chair Dolan pulled reports that try to explain risks to the public. People may agree on the number but disagree about acceptable risk. They may choose to smoke or ride a motorcycle, but if someone makes the person take such a risk, most people will not want that. Risk is not all about science; it is an ethical question, with whether or not forced to do something.

There was general agreement that ComEd should have given residents a choice, but because it's being forced, it's may be a problem. Warrenville has no regulatory role with ComEd. The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is the agency that regulates ComEd. Mailings have started going out. How to delay installation was left off the mailing. Concerned residents can call and get on the delay list.

Commissioner Kauth emphasized that just because the City has no regulatory authority over the installation of smart meters that does not mean the EAC should not educate people about potential risks. The EAC can also let people know about real time metering because that is when it is environmentally beneficial. Commissioner Kauth will write an article on smart meters. She will include other helpful information such as not placing baby cribs near a smart meter.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Approve Draft Resource Newsletter

For the newsletter: Kilowatt meters are available with a library card to measure energy use. The Resource must be completed by October 20, 2014.

G. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

1. Commissioner Kauth mentioned the Healthy Lawn Symposium at Benedictine University October 31, 2014, 9-4 in the Krasa Presentation Room. It is free and open to the public.
2. Chair Dolan promoted the solar tour. One can go to website for a list of houses to tour. www.illinoisolartour.org
3. Chair Dolan also highlighted an EPA list of environmental things in the area, like food scrap composting and The Wild Ones. Anyone can get on the mailing list by emailing Jeff Gahris at Jgahris@wideopenwest.com.

4. Candidates for the upcoming election will speak October 14 at 7:30 at the Library, including President of DuPage Forest Preserve Joe Cantore, County Board member Lauren Novak, and Preserve commissioner Shannon Burns. The event is sponsored by The River Prairie Group of The Sierra Club.
5. Warrenville in Bloom and EAC should coordinate. Should there be flowers for bridge? There are quite a few questions that have environmental aspects to them.
6. The draft 2014 Report was reviewed and questions answered. Commissioner Kauth moved to approve the 2014 Annual Report as amended, which was seconded by Commissioner Anderson and unanimously approved.
7. Resident Franke suggested that the Commission put a blurb in the newspaper about what it's doing.
8. Commissioner Vaccaro sent a note that Wilmette has banned coal-tar sealants. The EAC intends to work with The Sierra Club on this issue in the future. The grant for phosphorus use may be able to be converted over to another water quality issue.

H. ADJOURN

Commissioner Kauth made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Anderson, which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean-Marie Kauth