

VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON
ENVIRONMENTAL & HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call

Roll call was answered by Chairperson Linda Aylward, Kourtney Sellers, Vance Antoniou (attending remotely, and Lauren Preisen (attending remotely)

Also present were Village Administrator John Lobaito, Trustee Liaison Martin Pais, and Administrative Assistant Sue Murdy.

Chairperson Linda Aylward welcomed Trustee Liaison Pais and thanked him for attending the meeting.

In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order #2020-07, in person attendance requirements under the Open Meetings Act have been suspended and relaxed.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes from the February 2, 2021 Environmental & Health Commission Meeting.

Motion by Kourtney Sellers and seconded by Vance Antoniou to approve the February 2, 2021 Environmental & Health Commission Meeting Minutes. On roll call vote Chairperson Aylward, Vance Antoniou, Kourtney Sellers, and Lauren Preisen voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

Tree of the Year Program

Administrator Lobaito presented a brief background of the program and explained to the Commission that Village President Sweet McDonnell has requested the Environmental and Health Commission administer the Tree of the Year Program. The goal is to have a more inclusive and formal policy as well as engage a larger portion of the North Barrington community. The program was previously informally run with the Board's implicit approval. If the Commission determines the program has value, a written formal recommendation will be sent to the Board of Trustees. Budget provisions would also be submitted. Administrator Lobaito referred to the Commission packet which included guidelines, nomination form and newspaper articles from 2015 and 2016. Chairperson Aylward asked for discussion. The nomination form will be redesigned, as well as a website submittal form. Potential guidelines were considered by the Commission, including a tree location and its integral value. Trustee Liaison Pais mentioned to the Commission that the American Forestry Association website

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has a tree registry on a national level. The process of nominating trees and registering them can be found on the website as a possible template design by the Commission. The timeline of the program was discussed as well as the importance of a nomination time frame. The intention is to judge and nominate a tree at its peak blooming time of the season. Kourtney Sellers agreed to draft guidelines for the Tree of the Year Program.

Earth Day/Arbor Day

The Commission has nothing planned for Earth Day/ Arbor Day this year. The Village President and Village Administrator, in conjunction with ComEd, have tentatively arranged for 61 evergreen saplings to be distributed to Village residents on Saturday April 30th at the Village Hall. The information will be put out to the residents via the Village website and email blasts. The Commission will make plans for a 2023 Earth Day/Arbor Day event.

There was brief discussion about prior Earth Days held in the Village which encouraged and promoted food scrapping and e-scrapping. There was a lot of participation by residents at the event which was held in the past at North Barrington School and Eton Park. There is a possibility the Village will re-visit this topic in the future.

Village Administrator reminded the Commission that Prairieland has a contractual agreement with the Village to participate in recycling events.

50/50 Tree Program

The Village President has requested the Environmental and Health Commission evaluate the Village 50/50 Tree Program and send a recommendation to the Board for consideration if they feel the program has value to the Village. Village Administrator John Lobaito explained to the Commission that the program was never formally approved by the Village Board. Before the program was repealed in 2020, the Village was sharing the cost with residents on a 50/50 basis for approximately twenty (20) North Barrington residential property owners. The annual cost of the program was about \$4,000. There was discussion about the costs associated with the program along with the process of obtaining and planting the trees. The Village Forester previously ran the program. The effort and time to administer the program was discussed, the conclusion being the residents valued the program. Village Administrator also suggested a basic reimbursement program. He reminded the Commission that taxpayer dollars are being used for individual residents of the Village. Chairperson Aylward agreed to draft a purpose, guidelines, and a recommendation for the Board of Trustees. Village Administrator Lobaito will draft a Resolution.

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Old/New Business

Trustee Pais complimented the Environmental and Health Commission as well as the Village of North Barrington on its recycling efforts.

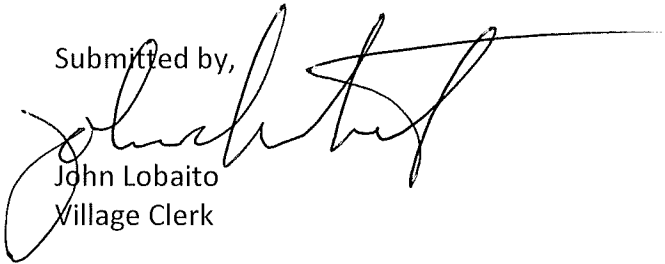
Chairperson Aylward showed the Commission a flyer for a native plant sale May 7th and May 8th sponsored by the Citizens for Conservation.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kourtney Sellers and seconded by Lauren Presien. On roll call vote Chairperson Aylward, Vance Antoniou, Kourtney Sellers, and Lauren Preisen voted Aye. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The meeting of the Environmental and Health Commission was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Lobaito', is written over the printed name and title.

John Lobaito
Village Clerk