MINUTES
Sustainability Committee
January 16, 2019
Municipal Complex, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at the Municipal Complex in Crystal Lake.

II. Roll Call/Attendance

Present were the following committee members: Chair John Kavalunas, Scott Hennings, Terry Dieckhoff, Pat Dieckhoff, Ryan Pettit and Chalen Daigle. Also in attendance was Ann Viger, Director of Park Development and Interpretive Services for the Crystal Lake Park District, and Nick Hammonds, Management Analyst.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Approval of the Minutes from December 12, 2018

Terry Dieckhoff moved to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2018 meeting as amended. Scott Hennings seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, motion passed.

V. Guest: Ann Viger

Ann Viger with the Crystal Lake Park District joined the meeting to discuss the restoration and maintenance projects within the City. She advised that updates for neighborhood parks will be posted so the public knows what is occurring.

VI. GIS Biking App Discussion

John Kavalunas began the discussion regarding the GIS biking app. Scott Hennings discussed the development of a GIS map showing biking trails in McHenry County. The County is working on the app currently, with the expectation to go live to the public in 2019. John Kavalunas asked Ann Viger if the Park District has had any progress on a biking app. She advised that the Park District would be interested in the app and having a link to the Park District. Scott Hennings stated that the County app will have linking capabilities to the Park District, City and other trails maintained by the County, State, and Preservation District. The Committee agreed to keep the GIS app discussion on the next Committee meeting agenda.

VII. Bicycle Friendly Community

Scott Hennings began the discussion of the bicycle friendly community application. John Kavalunas asked what is required of local bike shops to get involved. Scott Hennings discussed the steps that would need to be taken by bike shops, such as encouraging biking and having a bathroom or changing room available for bicyclists. The Committee discussed outreach efforts for the local bike shops. Terry Dieckhoff will contact Ski and Bike, John Kavalunas will contact Wheel Werks, and Scott Hennings will contact Lucky Brake. Terry Dieckhoff discussed how exercise facilities

and other businesses could be involved. Installing bike racks would be an example of encouraging biking by businesses.

Scott Hennings discussed that any business could apply. Having bike to work days and other promotions would qualify as promoting biking. Ryan Pettit discussed the benefit of getting larger employers in the City to apply. Scott Hennings stated that businesses will have to pay a fee, depending on the size of the employer, to apply. John Kavalunas discussed the possibility of showing the biking app to local businesses as part of the promotional efforts.

Chalen Daigle asked about the rewards for businesses. Specifically, do businesses get some type of recognition or other advertisement opportunities? Scott Hennings advised that businesses would get some form of recognition. Pat Dieckhoff stated that getting local bike shops involved would still be helpful. The Committee agreed to continue the Bicycle Friendly Community discussion to the February meeting.

VIII. Goal Discussion

John Kavalunas began the goal discussion by asking if the Committee's goals identified at the December meeting were acceptable for 2019. It was agreed that additional goals can also be added throughout the year. John Kavalunas and Pat Dieckhoff agreed that the review and implementation of the GRC would be an additional goal for 2019.

IX. McHenry County Bike Sharing

Nick Hammonds began the discussion by advising the Committee of the status of the McHenry County Bike Sharing proposal with the City. Nick Hammonds discussed the background of the program, communities currently committed, and the review of the proposal during the budget process. Scott Hennings discussed additional needs of the program and the role of bike shops to maintain the bikes. Scott Hennings further stated that the program would be more successful in communities such as Crystal Lake, with train stations and easily accessible bike paths. McHenry County College, Woodstock, and McHenry have committed to the program, with Algonquin planning to join in 2020. Scott Hennings also discussed the benefits of getting partnerships by local businesses to promote the program.

Pat Dieckhoff stated that the Committee could make a motion in support of the City joining the program. The Committee agreed. John Kavalunas moved for the Committee to make a motion supporting the bike sharing program, the ecological impact of the program, and the benefits of the commitment term of the program.

X. Bike With Your Neighbor 2019

Pat Dieckhoff began the discussion by stating that the Committee needs to focus on promoting the program. Fliers will be created similar to 2018, with the rain out date included in the flier and other promotional materials. The Committee agreed that posting the event in the April and May City newsletters would be ideal. Nick Hammonds confirmed the City will post information in the City newsletter.

John Kavalunas stated that the Committee could reach out to Kim Buscemi with the Park District to attend the February meeting and begin preparations for the event. John Kavalunas and Terry Dieckhoff discussed the importance of getting more prizes and having attractions for younger children.

XI. Trail Connect Initiative (Active Trans Alliance)

John Kavalunas discussed the Trail Connect Initiative and the focus of the organization. John Kavalunas stated that the goal of the initiative is to network, locate grants, and work with like-minded people and organizations. Scott Hennings stated that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 17, 2019 at Willis Tower and that it would be beneficial for member of the Committee to rotate attending some of the meetings. The Committee agreed not to take a formal membership, but rather to reach out to other members in the community who are part of the initiative.

XII. Open Discussion

Pat Dieckhoff asked if the Committee position vacancy has been posted. Nick Hammonds advised that the vacancy announcement will be posted in the February City newsletter. Pat Dieckhoff stated that the person she was in contact with that seemed interested in joining is too busy to join. The Committee asked Nick Hammonds to reach out to Lehn Shepherd to inquire about the status of his potential recruits.

Pat Dieckhoff discussed the Illinois Solar Energy Association and its monthly SolSmart webinar series. The next webinar will be January 24th at 1:00 p.m. Pat Dieckhoff asked if the City can view the webinar. Nick Hammonds advised he will forward the webinar to City staff to view and report on the webinar.

Pat Dieckhoff stated that the Environmental Defenders of McHenry County have been approved by Woodstock for their solar community project. The Defenders are currently asking for any subscribers and over 100 people have already joined.

XIII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

XIV. Adjourn

There being no further business, Terry Dieckhoff moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Scott Hennings seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.