

1 APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
2 COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
3 VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK
4 OCTOBER 21, 2021
5 **SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

6 Chairman Reynolds called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Village Hall, Terrace
7 Room. Present were Members Rod Burton, Aaron Stash, and Sandra Weiss.

9 **Also Present:** Sustainability Coordinator Tessa Murray; Director of Development & Planning
10 Services Michaela Kohlstedt

11
12 **Absent:** Becky Lee, Claire Poupard, Ying Wang

14 **Guests:** Kelly Durov, Jill Franklin

15
16 **Review and Approval of Minutes**

17 There were no minutes to approve.

18
19 **Hear From the Audience**

20 None

21
22 **Commissioner Introductions**

23 Liaison Murray introduced the members of the newly formed Sustainability Commission.
24 She asked that the members introduce themselves, state how long they have been a
25 resident of Northbrook, and why they chose to be a member of the Commission.

26
27 **Climate Action Plan Implementation and First Steps**

28 The Village Board listed a Climate Action Plan (CAP) as a top priority. PaleBLUe dot LLC
29 worked closely with the department on baseline studies. A CAP team was formed that
30 included Village staff, School Districts, Library, Park District, Commissions and the Public.
31 Open house sessions were held. A final draft CAP was adopted in August 2021. 100 action
32 items were identified for Phase One. The Board identified their top ten action items. Four
33 items in the outline were determined suitable for the Sustainability Commission to assist
34 with. It is expected that the Sustainability Commission will have a more active role in
35 research and action being taken. It is hoped that the Commission will be able to show items
36 achieved and progress in the making.

37
38 TL5-3 recommends encouraging the safe use of non-cars such as bikes, e-bikes and scooters
39 on Village rights of way and to collaborate with the Library for bicycle safety. Membership
40 would research how other communities promote a non-auto use.

41
42 WM1-1 recommends phasing out use of plastics by implementing a fee. Membership would
43 gather research about how other towns adopt ordinances.

1 CE 1-1 recommends continuing the Green Leadership Award by assisting with outreach to
2 those that may have green businesses to apply for certification. Membership would
3 promote outreach and discuss how to get the word out.

4
5 HS 1-1 recommends providing up-to-date information to residents about the health effects
6 of heat and Cooling Center locations. Membership would seek out houses of worship to
7 invite them to be chilling and warming centers for residents to use during record heat and
8 cold weather events. A suggestion was to use the titles "Chill Northbrook" and "Toasty
9 Northbrook".

10
11 Members were asked to provide feedback on their top two interests that they believe are
12 achievable. The top interest of the majority will then be chosen. Membership will have one
13 month to study how another community handled the issue, who was the recipient of the
14 funding, etc. Membership will report feedback at next month's meeting.

15
16 Member Stash asked how the top ten items were identified. Director Kohlstedt stated that
17 the Board ranked and agreed on a list of their top ten items chosen from the CAP. If the
18 Sustainability Commission finishes the four recommended items, it is free to go on and
19 select an item of their own interest. Director Kohlstedt stated that going forward each
20 member should become familiar with the CAP and the items on the list.

21
22 Chairman Reynolds stated that he is most comfortable and has the most interest in
23 transportation and waste issues. He likes the education component of both.

24
25 Member Burton is interested in transportation and would like to work hand-in-hand with
26 the Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission incorporating the Master Bicycle and Pedestrian
27 Plan and also has interest in building engineering and the climate economy.

28
29 Member Stash stated that with Covid still around, this might not be the time to tackle
30 removing single use plastics from the community. The public is not comfortable. He has
31 interest in transportation and the bicycle community and buildings and energy. He likes the
32 LED cost savings measure. He would like to showcase sustainability as cost savings versus
33 adding a fee. Director Kohlstedt stated that Public Works is taking action with the street
34 lights but that the Sustainability Commission could specifically research these items.

35
36 Liaison Murray stated that the Department of Development and Planning Service will now
37 include a sustainability addendum to the report as it relates to a proposed development.

38
39 Director Kohlstedt stated that a first item role could be a review of how other communities
40 promote non-car transportation and how this might be encouraged in Northbrook.
41 Membership could investigate how to promote a No-Car Day and what types of signage is
42 most effective. This might also include the safety factor of a protective bike lane,
43 encouraging people to ride bikes.

44
45 Director Kohlstedt explained that a health and safety initiative would involve reaching out to
46 people using the Village, Library, and School newsletters and Senior Living facilities in town.
47 The warming/cooling centers would need to be geographically located for the needy.

1
2 Member Burton stated he wants to start with a positive economic impact. He stated non-
3 power transportation saves money and emissions.
4

5 After further discussion, membership chose the non-power transportation item as their first
6 choice and climate economy leadership award as their second choice. Liaison Murray will
7 reach out those members who were absent from tonight's meeting and recap what was
8 discussed.
9

10 Director Kohlstedt asked membership to come back next month with research on change or
11 a recommendation on what other communities are doing to promote non-auto use.
12 Membership is asked to email Liaison Murray their materials no later than November 8,
13 2021 to be included in the packet.
14

15 **Updates on Other Items:**

16 **a) Communication Initiatives & Messaging**

17 Liaison Murray disseminates information through the Village website, Facebook, Twitter,
18 LinkedIn, Village E-newsletter, Village print newsletter, bulletin posters and more. Member
19 Weiss suggested the YMCA, Northbrook Park District, La De Da, Culvers and Butterfields.
20

21 Social Media posts include: 1) Plastic Bag Recycling. Plastic bags are not accepted in
22 recycling by Waste Management; 2) Free tree sapling giveaway; 3) Illinois Solar Tour; 4)
23 Transforming Landscapes for Sustainability, in cooperation with the Northbrook Public
24 Library; 5) #EEDay2021, Wednesday, October 6, 2021; 6) Water your trees and shrubs; 7)
25 Leave the Leaves information; 8) Fall is for Planting posters.
26

27 The November Village newsletter will publicize the Pumpkin Smash Event on Sunday,
28 November 7, 2021 at Northbrook Court parking lot. Print newsletter topics include wintering
29 your garden.
30

31 Member Stash volunteered to contact Waste Management for information on how to
32 recycle cardboard, aluminum and glass. He will report back to the Commission.
33

34 Public Works has free high quality mulch.
35

36 Commonwealth Edison is offering rebates for their energy assistance program through
37 December 31, 2021.
38

39 **b) Solar Permit Data**

40 A slide presented a map with solar permit data in Northbrook this year.
41

42 **c) Recycling & Waste Data –Solid Waste, Recycling, Compost, E-waste, Textiles, Plastic 43 Bags**

44 Waste Management reports 2021 landfill data for single family recycling, tonnage is down.
45 Waste Management will do a Northbrook specific waste audit of recycling of the single
46 family community. This will take place on November 30, 2021. A few Northbrook routes will
47 be used in the audit. Compost is about average or a bit lower.

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Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Remarks for the Good of the Order:

Ms. Franklin and Ms. Durov will stay apprised of what the Village and Sustainability Commission are working on in order to encourage the Library to maintain momentum.

Next Scheduled Meeting:

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission is scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjourn:

A motion was made by Member Weiss seconded by Member Reynolds to adjourn the Sustainability Commission October 21, 2021 meeting at 7:00 p.m. The motion passed by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Sue Anetsberger
Recorder