

**DOWNERS GROVE**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMISSION**

**Minutes**

**March 14, 2019**

I. Roll Call

**Commissioner Ellis made a motion nominating Commissioner Marron to serve as Acting Chair. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bement and passed by a voice vote.**

Acting Chair Marron asked for a Roll Call:  
Commissioner Bement, Commissioner Duda, Commissioner Ellis, Acting Chair Marron  
Commissioner Salman arrived at 7:04pm

Commissioner Horvatin, Chairwoman Pelloso – Absent

II. Visitor Welcome

Acting Chair Marron welcomed the visitors to the meeting and asked them to introduce themselves.

Ms. Vera Miller noted she is a resident and leader of the Downers Grove Clean Energy Task Force.

Dr. Jan Hessler, noted he is a resident of the Village for 40 years and a research physicist who's given many talks on climate change.

Ms. Sue Farley, introduced herself as an active member of the Green Grovers and overall active member of the community.

III. Public Comment

Ms. Miller stated she read the minutes and said here to learn more about the future of the ECC and the proposed Climate Action Plan. Looking forward to working with the Village on energy efficiency and programs to take advantage of in IL. Support the Village and support the commission's efforts

IV. View and Approval of February 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Acting Chair Marron asked for a motion to approve.

**Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve, Commissioner Duda seconded the motion. The motion to approve the February 14, 2019 meeting minutes passed by voice vote.**

V. Staff update on ongoing projects

Ms. Miles noted the Village Facilities project is on hold.

Mr. Dan Carlsen introduced himself as the Management Analyst in the Village Manager's office and said he looked forward to working with the commission when Ms. Miles was on leave at the beginning around the end of April.

VI. New Business

- Discussion: Renaming the commission and reviewing goal of commission  
Ms. Miles noted this item was brought by Chairwoman Pelloso but could still be discussed in her absence if desired by the rest of the commission.

Commissioner Marron stated he did not have an opinion either way on the name of the commission.

Commissioner Bement suggested Sustainable Solutions, something that was more active/proactive.

Commissioner Duda suggested dropping the word Concerns would be an improvement in the name.

Acting Chair Marron asked what the process was for re-naming a commission. Ms. Miles said a motion could be made but it would require a change in the Village's municipal code.

Commissioner Salman asked to table this discussion on the naming proposals and goals for the next meeting and have all commissioners review the goals of the commission.

Ms. Miles noted she would send the information from the Village's municipal code about the ECC to the commissioners.

Dr. Hessler then commented on the Intergovernmental Policy on Climate Change's report from October of last year. He read from the report regarding human caused emissions of carbon dioxide and commented on the urgency of this issue.

Acting Chair Marron asked Dr. Hessler to think about how his comments could be incorporated into the goals of the commission at the next meeting.

- Discussion: Creation of ad hoc workgroup

Acting Chair Marron asked if this topic should also be tabled until the next meeting. Commissioner Salman said she would like to have time to regroup and recommit to making this organization more effective. She then asked when her term was done and Ms. Miles noted it was August. Commissioner Salman noted

the discussion should include an assessment of the members and then discuss the goals of the commission. Ms. Miles noted any appointments are made by the Mayor and Council but said if it is helpful she would send the information about each member's term to them after the meeting. Ms. Miles also explained when a member's term is up staff gives those members time to decide if they'd like to be reappointed as part of the process.

Ms. Farley noted she was at the League of Women Voters forum and said many candidates talked about the Village Board's and Commissions, and how to use the volunteers more efficiently.

Ms. Miles noted the proposal from Commission Ellis was pulled up on the screen. Commissioner Ellis then summarized the discussion from last month and then discussed her proposal and some research she has done on the topic. She also discussed how Evanston's Climate Workgroup functions. Commissioner Bement said she was impressed with the work Evanston did on this workgroup.

Commissioner Ellis also noted work that the Village did back in 2009-2011 and said it was part of the link included in her proposal.

Commissioner Duda suggested including membership of stakeholders in the Village and getting commitments from those stakeholders as part of the proposal.

Ms. Miles briefly explained the process of creating an ad hoc committee and noted the conversation had with the Mayor at the last meeting. Ms. Miles noted all members have to be appointed in the same manner as members are appointed to any Village board or commission.

Acting Chair Marron and Commissioner Ellis discussed specifics on the makeup of the ad hoc group and edits to the current proposal. Ms Miles noted a staff person would be assigned and agendas and minutes would be taken just like other Village boards and commissions.

Acting Chair Marron suggested discussion of this item at next month's meeting as well.

Ms. Miller asked if the proposal would be made public. Ms. Miles said it would be made available for the public as well as available for the next month's meeting discussion.

Ms. Farley then asked if anyone had heard of the Chicago Region Tree Initiative Program and then discussed this program she had recently learned about from an event she attended. Ms. Farley noted the Village's canopy cover.

Acting Chair Marron asked if the Village posts information about Library events. Ms. Miles said yes that events are posted on Village social media and other communication outlets.

Ms. Miles then confirmed the agenda items would be the same agenda items as this month and the commissioners agreed.

Ms. Miller suggested research of other communities

VII. Adjournment

Acting Chair Marron asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Commissioner Ellis made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Duda seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was passed by a voice vote.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.**

Meeting adjourned.