

**DOWNERS GROVE
ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMISSION
MINUTES
October 13, 2011**

I. Roll Call

Commissioner Vitt Sale made a motion to appoint Commissioner Hose as acting chair. Commissioner Speta seconded the motion.

Commissioner Hose asked for a roll call.

Present: Commissioner Hose, Commissioner Duet, Commissioner Eisenhart, Commissioner Vitt Sale, Commissioner Speta, Commissioner Vitti

Absent: Commissioner Sterner, Commissioner Cavallo

II. Review and Approval of September 8, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Hose asked for corrections or revisions to the minutes. Commissioner Eisenhart made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Vitt Sale seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

III. Visitor Welcome

Commissioner Hose welcomed two visitors: Joseph Vitti and Krista Varsbergs.

IV. Staff Update

Ms. Deitch provided an update on the Village's recycling extravaganza. The following were collected: 117,520 lbs of electronics, 202 lead-acid batteries, 120 bikes, 115 American flags, 126 propane tanks, and 20,000 lbs of shredded paper. Ms. Deitch stated that not all vehicles were able to enter the event before the line was cut off. The Village is reviewing the event to avoid that in the future. Ms. Varsbergs stated that it was difficult to find a place to recycle prescription drugs. Ms. Deitch stated that the Village's website had further information on its website. Mr. Vitti suggested that the website state more prominently that the Lisle Police Department collects prescription drugs. Ms. Varsbergs also commented that it was difficult to find information on recycling on the Village's website. Ms. Deitch stated that she had discussed placing a 'Green Initiatives' button on the front page of the website.

V. Presentation on Hillcrest School Green Initiatives

Ms. Varsbergs discussed Hillcrest School's green initiatives with which she has been involved. She has a child that attends the school. Through SCARCE, the school began working on renewal of its Earth Flag. As part of the renewal, the school formed an eco-club and completed a waste audit. The school received a \$10,000 grant to purchase and install six solar panels on the south roof line of the school. The solar system is connected to an educational program that allows the school to incorporate renewable energy into the curriculum. It provides real-time statistics on the energy generated by the solar panels. The school also created an eco-club, has a composting program and promotes waste-free lunches. She stated that the composting containers were old. Commissioner Vitt Sale suggested that she contact the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity which provides grants for compost bins. Ms. Varsbergs stated that she was interested in creating an anti-idling program similar to the Village's program for parents picking up their children from school.

VI. Green Business Recognition Program

The Commission discussed the application for the Green Business Recognition program. The commission suggested the following changes:

- Insert a link from the application to the examples
- List bicycle parking and anti-idling policy under Employee Practices
- Show the application to business owners before starting the program
- Add stormwater pollution prevention
- Take out waterless urinals (not legal in Illinois) and replace with ultra low-flow urinals and toilets
- Add an 'other' box to types of businesses
- Water: Suggest EPA Watersense labeled appliances
- Water: Add suggestion for putting the irrigation system on a timer and having moisture sensors
- Have three levels of achievement (One tree, two trees, three trees or bronze, silver, gold)
- For the Green Pledge form, have the business commit to reporting a year later on progress
- Provide information on green practices during the permitting process

VII. Old Business

Ms. Deitch stated that one of the Village's engineers would attend the next meeting to discuss the stormwater pollution prevention practices that the village uses. Ms. Deitch also stated she would attempt to contact the Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition again and the City of Aurora as requested.

VIII. New Business

There was no new business.

IX. Adjournment

Commissioner Hose asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Duet made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Vitti seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.