

**VILLAGE OF LAKE BLUFF
SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING**

**November 3, 2021
7:00 P.M.
Village Hall Board Room
40 East Center Avenue**

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The Village of Lake Bluff Sustainability and Community Enhancement Ad Hoc Committee (SEC) met on November 3, 2021 in the Village Hall Board Room (40 E. Center Avenue) at 7:00 p.m. and the following members were present:

2. Roll Call

Present: Brian Rener, Co-Chair
 Nanette Barrett
 McCamie Cole
 Marietta Hance
 Alexa Richer
 Sophia Twichell

Also Present: R. Drew Irvin, Village Administrator (VA)
 Jake Terlap, Public Works Superintendent (PWS)
 Glen Cole, Assistant to the Village Administrator (AVA)

Absent: Marina Carney Puryear, Co-Chair

3. Consideration of the October 6, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes

Member Barrett moved to approve the October 6, 2021 SEC Meeting Minutes as amended. Member Twichell seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: (6) Barrett, Cole, Hance, Richer, Twichell and Co-Chair Rener
Nays: (0)
Absent: (1) Co-Chair Puryear

4. Non-Agenda Items and Visitors

Co-Chair Rener stated that the SEC allocates 15 minutes for those individuals who would like the opportunity to address the SEC on any matter not listed on the agenda.

Sue Raymore, a resident of Lake Bluff, introduced herself. She addressed the SEC during the last meeting. She came as a member as the Nature’s Best book club and explained how native plants are so important to the ecosystem. The book club just collaborated with the Lake Bluff Garden Club and the Lake Bluff Open Lands with the idea to start a demonstration garden in Lake Bluff using native plants that people could see and hopefully consider using in their yard. Since that time, the book club has changed their name to the Growing Native Gardens Community with the idea that this might not be the only garden and that there will be more in the future. She wanted to let the SEC know that they asked for

land to use for the garden space and they are working with the Park District. They have a bed that they have started gardening in at Artesian Park just west of the tennis courts. They recently put fencing around it and they are going to put leaves on the soil to begin planting next spring. She wanted to inform the SEC of the ecological function native plants serve for animals and other plants in the area. She gave a definition of a native plant, which is plants that were here before European settlers and shared the term nativars, which are native plants that have been genetically manipulated. She said that there is no evidence except in very few plants that the ecological function stays the same when they genetically manipulate the plant, so they do not know if that plant still provides the ecological function and she said native plants are important for that reason. She said that there are also hybrids and native plants can be identified by the naming nomenclature. Ms. Raymore asked for input from the SEC on what is happening in the Village, whether they are interested in a more natural landscape or if they are trying to do the right thing ecologically, and so native plants must be considered. She said there are many people in her community group that would be willing to help the SEC with making the right decisions for native plantings.

5. General Business

Co-Chair Renner said that the SEC will recap all of the plans for Route 176 and for native plantings for the benefit of new members and the audience. AVA Cole said that when the SEC first convened, one of their goals was to make a plan which was on ideas around landscaping for the Village's key corridors and gateways, in other words, the highest visibility parts in the community and on public property. In 2018 and 2019, the Village retained assistance from Jodi Mariano with Teska Associates and convened a number of stakeholders including the Lake Bluff Garden Club, Lake Bluff Open Lands Association, IDOT, Lake County, and the Lake Bluff Park District. The Village of Lake Bluff's Landscape Playbook, more formally known as the Village's Thematic Landscape Identity, Gateway & Corridor Plan, aims to balance the importance of restoring native species to Lake Bluff as well as some of the interest of community members through formal or colorful landscaping. It also balances the needs of, for example, departments of transportation and makes sure that clear space is kept for cyclists and that the Village has, for example, salt tolerant species where salt will run off to serve motorists. This plan additionally serves the needs of private property owners and public agencies to have plantings that can be maintained easily and that will not need the same level of upkeep every week. What is more relevant for tonight is the concept plan for the Route 176 corridor. This is a driving force in beautifying the corridor and it is a big part of why this plan and these stakeholders were convened. AVA Cole presented a section from Green Bay Road to the east running over to the Union Pacific Railroad tracks to the west. Along the north shows the golf course and frontage, which is Village owned property lying between the service road and Route 176. This is a project that is underway right now. He presented CLCJAWA property and he will discuss the native planting project that is happening on their front lawn now. He next presented ten acres that are owned by the Village which is outlying in the future. There is a project of intersection improvements around Green Bay Road spelled out in this plan. This plan put forwards a two-pronged approach and prioritizes projects for public investment and opportunities for private investment by laying our principles around screening. AVA Cole said that it is important for the SEC to focus on the three priority projects which are the frontage between Route 176 in the golf course, the Green Bay Road intersection project, and the gateway sign enhancements. The Village will soon complete this northerly section of the corridor plan to open up the view into the golf course, which will be done by next spring. The south side of this corridor shows something that was not necessarily planned which was to extend the drifts of grass and prairie into the CLCJAWA property. Also, the east shows their principles in the South Sheridan Road landscape, or the site of the Robert McClory trail, from the new bridge to around Route 176. AVA Cole introduced Bill Soucie of CLCJAWA to talk about his plan.

a.1 Review of Native Landscapes ~ CLCJAWA – Water Treatment Plant at 200 Rockland Rd.

Mr. Soucie thanked the SEC for letting him speak. As CLCJAWA is one of the highest profile

properties on the Rockland Road entrance into the Village, their water treatment plant site was designed to portray a corporate campus atmosphere inspired by Abbott in the late '80s and early '90s. The site has a treed and mowed lawn, typology that dominated their fenced and unfenced areas. They have naturalized the slopes of their water retention pond at the front of their property and the support a grove of native trees and bushes between the pond and the bike path. Now they have been recently approached about restoring as much of their mowed lawn as possible back to prairie and while they are reluctant to do so within their security fence perimeter, they are open to doing so outside of the fenced line. In specific areas, they plan to address outside the fenced line are marked as areas one, two, and three on the aerial photograph on page 12 of the SEC packet. Following this meeting, what CLCJAWA plans to do is prep area one and install a native seed mix and erosion control matting. It is Mr. Soucie's intention to have a prairie that does not tower over visitors that are walking through their property or that obstructs the view of the CLCJAWA facility. This is supposed to be a short mix with a few tall grasses and forbs and for the next two to four years, they expect that it will probably look pretty weedy until the plants establish themselves. Also, this year, they plan to reduce the stand of native sumac that is located in area three between the pond and the bike path. They would like to do that based on the feedback received from some landscape architects. They will let the existing seed back into the soil and bring that back to life along with the migration of the native plants that are along the west side of the pond. Based on their experience in area one this year, they will consider restoring the prairie in area two next year, which is their mowed lawn area outside of their fenced line. They do plan on framing the prairie and path with some lawn and specifically they will maintain cut grass that is about a mower width along the fence line along the driveway of the walking path. Tonight, Mr. Soucie is interested in hearing what the SEC has to say about this and he would also like to get their input on two items. The first being that quite a few people that access their pond and benches cut through the area from the southwest corner of the bike path and the driveway. He is curious if the SEC suggests CLCJAWA maintains a path through that area that for now would be kept mowed down. Secondly, he would like to get input on the trees in area one. There are about 20 trees and he would like to know if they envisioned the prairie growing up to the trunks of those trees or if they would like him to maintain some kind of cleared area around the trees.

Member Twichell said that this was an exciting gift to see this plan in the SEC packet. She was thrilled with the overall strategy and thanked Mr. Soucie for that. She asked a question regarding people fishing in the pond and if there will still be access for families and kids to do that without having to walk through that. She asked if there will be some mowed areas that would provide access.

Mr. Soucie responded that they could certainly do that. Right now, they have the native plantings that go up the bank to the lawn and when he first talked to the native restorations about this, he asked them if they should keep certain areas cleared for fishing. He followed their advice which was no and that is because the feeling is that they fear people will cut right through to where they best position themselves on the water anyways. The plantings they have there are really not hard to move through, so to answer Member Twichell's question, he was not intending on doing that, but if that is something he desired or the public would like, they would certainly entertain that.

Member Twichell said that as long as it is easy to access and it feels welcome, then that is great. To answer one of Mr. Soucie's questions, she said the prairie can go up to the trees. Regarding the path, Member Twichell said she is sure other committee members have thoughts, but Mr. Soucie could just have a mowed grass path through area one or could access sort of along the road area. This would be a way to come across so people would not need to go right through the middle of it. In other words, come down the driveway some amount and then cut over.

Mr. Soucie said there are quite a few people that walk their dogs and they cut across there. Member Twichell said it always feels odd when you go around the easy side of it and then you have to go so far west to then go east again, so she understands the temptation.

Co-Chair Renner asked if mowed is the only way to create the path so if there are other materials that can be put down to create a path for dogs and people to get to the area.

Mr. Soucie responded that he thinks there are other options, but what he would like to do not is to just start and they can keep that area mowed down since he will be framing the native stuff with a mower anyways. After the plants establish themselves, they could talk about whether they want wood chips or other materials such as asphalt in the future. When the path is replaced, he will do something that is permeable.

Member Barrett applauded Mr. Soucie's efforts in making this property so much more sustainable and beautiful. She mentioned that she thinks a path through that area is a great idea. Children have the experience of watching the butterflies and watching the things happen when they are immersed there. She said that there is a small school in the Village with a little patch of prairie in the front yard with a wood chip path and it provides a lovely botanical study of plants, animals, and insects. In regards to the pond, she walked around the area tonight and realized its peaceful ambiance. If the prairie plants grow there, there will not be a view of the pond from a bench. Mr. Soucie said his intention would be to keep the view onto the pond from the benches and not to sit there amongst the tall plants.

In response to a question from Member Barrett, Mr. Soucie said that there are trees to the east side of the site. Everything has grown thick and he wondered how to keep the area clear. He determined that if the sumac was taken down, a clearer view of the island would be maintained.

Member Hance said that it sounds like what he is planning will be a showcase of corporate restoration and it will be wonderful to see as it progresses. She said that Mr. Soucie mentioned that there were trees in area one and she wondered what kind of trees they were and if he has completed a tree survey. Mr. Soucie responded that he knows what trees they are since they planted all of them. They include oak, maple, river birch, and other native trees. Although, they might be cultivators, but they are hard wood trees. He said he would like to stay consistent with the trees growing there, but there are more trees than there would have been naturally.

Member Hance also mentioned that in the documentation presented, herbicides will be applied in each stage and she wondered what will be used and the extent of it because that is a word that catches everyone's attention. Mr. Soucie said he is unsure of the herbicide. Native Restorations indicated that they will herbicide treat the area. He said he can get back to them with an answer.

Member Hance also asked what kind of mat will be applied to the area when the seeds will be put down because some mats are made with plastic and some mats are made with coconut and recycled newspaper. Mr. Soucie said he will make every effort for the mat to be biodegradable. He will get back to the SEC on this information.

Co-chair Renner said that the SEC can make a motion to support these two issues.

Mr. Soucie asked the SEC if there is an herbicide they should use. Member Hance said that Native Restorations should avoid neonicotinoids. Member Twichell added that it is good for the members to be aware of the herbicide used. Mr. Soucie said that he will make sure they are not using neonicotinoids and it is apart of the agency's vision to be stewards of the environment.

Co-Chair Renner asked if Native Restorations was aware of the corridor plan. Mr. Soucie said he is unsure if they are aware, but he told them that this needs to be in accordance with the plan. Co-Chair Renner added that as these projects are being done at various times, he would like to make sure that the

different entities understand the plan.

Member Twichell moved to approve the conditions mentioned by Bill Soucie. Member Cole seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: (6) Barrett, Cole, Hance, Richer, Twichell and Co-Chair Renner
Nays: (0)
Absent: (1) Co-Chair Puryear

a.2 Review of Native Landscapes ~ Village of Lake Bluff – South Sheridan Road

AVA Cole introduced Jodi Mariano of Teska Associates who will present the South Sheridan Road landscape plan. Ms. Mariano introduced herself and presented her South Sheridan Road landscape enhancements presentation. The study area is from the Metra Parking lot to the north and Sheridan Place to the south. They are looking at both sides of Sheridan Road from the east side, which is primarily public right-of-way to where the park district property is at Artesian Park. There is some right-of-way space that is controlled by the state and there is also space on either side of the bike path that they are planning to add plantings to. Their goal is to do this within the context of the corridor plan direction. They considered ideas such as understory tree groupings which are within the playbook recommendations. She also discussed how to safely place plants away from the roadway and appropriate heights next to pathways. Ms. Mariano highlighted the landscape typologies that are mentioned in the playbook. Much of the trees have been removed so it will be nice to incorporate things that are closer to savannah which is part of the goals of the playbook as well. She also mentioned the importance of visibility when they are close to where people are driving, walking, and biking, and they would like to keep the understory plantings not taller than three feet tall. Ms. Mariano said that they will be aware of the native plantings that indicate salt tolerance and that are located close to roadways.

Ms. Mariano moved onto the plantings and elements on South Sheridan Road and how they will fit together into the concept plan. The plantings that are recommended are canopy trees and shrubs which come straight from the playbook. As far as the understory materials, such as perennials and grasses or seed mixes, Teska offered two options for how the Village could consider installing these things. If these were containerized plantings, they would be individual plants and it would come at a higher cost. If it was a seed mix option, it would be a lower cost, but does take some more effort to get those things established. As far as the perennials and grasses go, the prairie drop seed is a native that is recommended as part of the playbook. Their goal is to create something that has a visual impact. She offered a bench option for the trail and other trail amenities.

On the east side of South Sheridan Road, Ms. Mariano recommended to use groupings of understory trees so that they can play well with the existing tree cover. She also looked at pops of colors being features between the fence and the roadway. Moving through the mid-block near the school is the site of a proposed bench pad and bike pump as well as groupings of the low shrubs being features throughout. Lastly, the bike path node where the bridge I over lower Scranton Avenue has the opportunity for more benches. It will incorporate shrubs and understory trees. Teska applied some budget costs for tree plantings and they have about 50 planned trees, or 38 understory trees and 12 shade trees. She presented the price of the trees in her presentation. She said that the total base cost will be \$69,000. The containerized plantings will be approximately \$50,000 and the seed mix will be approximately \$30,000.

Member Twichell said that it is exciting to see the plan coming into action. She asked for clarification on the bench pads on the North Shore Trail. She said that she would not recommend investing in benches there as it is prone to flooding. Also, she said that bikers go fast there and it may be dangerous for individuals to linger there.

Member Cole said that he has visibility concerns about the same bench pad area. He said maintenance will be intensive due to the buckthorn clearance. He is also concerned for the blind spot for cyclists and walkers on the Robert McClory and North Shore Bike Path bend. He also had a concern with the crossing into Artesian Park. He said it is not clear of the heights of the plantings, which is a concern as it is a main thoroughfare as children and pedestrians use it often. He said that if plantings will be done here, he would like to ensure visibility of small children. Ms. Mariano answered that the plantings will not be taller than three feet. Also, she said that the plantings between the pathways will be mowed lawn, to ensure that mulch will not spill onto the pathway.

Member Twichell added that design can be used as a visual cue for cars, so cars can pay attention to bikes, kids, and dogs.

Member Cole said that is a good point when considering if the plantings should be a seed mix or in containers.

Member Twichell said that the design by Artesian Park feels similar to what she enjoys seeing south of Lake Forest. She also suggests that Ms. Mariano looks at the bike repair tools offered along the 606 in Chicago.

Ms. Mariano said that the concern with bike repair tools is that they tend to get stolen. In terms of signage, Ms. Mariano suggested that a sign can be displayed to show where bike repairs are located in town.

In response to a question from Co-Chair Rener, Ms. Mariano said bike parking could be incorporated in the plantings.

Member Twichell suggested garbage and recycling bins.

In response to a question from Co-Chair Rener, the Village did not receive funding for lighting along Sheridan Road. Co-Chair Rener suggested that in five years from now, the Village should consider lighting in the area, especially for cyclists and children.

Member Hance spoke about the choice for native plantings. She said that one option that would be exciting for the Village is if they could be recognized as using native plants to try to help people understand that they do not necessarily need the “wow” factor right away, but the Village would deliver the message that this is better for the environment. She’s a wonderful teaching opportunity here and believes this would teach people a new standard of beauty. Member Hance also wondering if there is a plan to keep invasive species out of the plan. Ms. Mariano said that as far as she understands, most of the buckthorn has been removed from Village and public right-of-way property, but on Park District property.

VA Irvin said that he had a conversation with Park District Executive Director John Beeler about the trees. He said that one thing they discussed was how these plantings will be maintained. There are many areas that the Village and the Park District maintain that are in close proximity and sometimes they trade for convenience or because it makes sense operationally. VA Irvin said Mr. Beeler was very supportive of the new plantings on the east side of the right-of-way and was even willing to treat them as they were on his own in terms of maintenance. He added that Mr. Beeler is not committed to maintain the high visibility main crossing. In regards to buckthorn clearance, the Park District and himself found that the Tangley Oaks subdivision has been hesitant to remove buckthorn because it provides the buffer yard between properties. He thinks this is something the Park District would consider while removing

buckthorn. VA Irvin said that the Village has been doing removal of buckthorn up and down the corridor over the years over the years when they have downtime during the winter. He said ideally long-term, they will move north along Sheridan Road and continue opening up large sections.

In response to a question from Member Cole, VA Irvin said that on the railroad property, there are many invasive species that is prone to flooding and it changes in grade. He said that they are opportunities to add an amenity, but it is difficult to come up with ideas due to its conditions. He said this is an area that needs more study.

PWS Terlap said that the switchback site has been under discussion for years. He said that everyone he has consulted with responded that cutting some of it down will make it look decent, but it cannot be cut down all the way because then they will be looking at something that they cannot replant.

VA Irvin said that this issue is seen on the left side of the rail road as well. He said that he discussed with Ms. Mariano opportunities to reestablish plantings on the slope.

PWS Terlap said that it is easy for his team to clean invasive species. He said the hard part is to initiate growth. He said a long-term vision is to have the area be all green and to act as a blank canvas for these plantings.

Ms. Mariano agreed with PWS Terlap. She said there will need to be a lot of maintenance, especially if the Village chooses the seed mix planting option.

VA Irvin pointed out that the 125 Committee generously gifted the Village with funding to do the mid-block crossing south of Sheridan Road cutoff plan. He understands that there should be a more complete bike stations and believes that is a project the 125 Committee would support. He added that he liked Ms. Mariano's idea of including signage and plaques for the trail and the historic Village.

Ms. Mariano said that these are great opportunities to incorporate public art.

In response to a question from Member Barrett, Ms. Mariano said that in regards to the bench options, Teska was interested in traditional benches. Also, they considered backs and arms, which consider the elderly population. Member Barrett responded that she liked how Ms. Mariano mentioned reclaimed wood for the benches. She said that this material can be incorporated as a natural place to invite people to sit.

AVA Cole said that he received a letter by one of their committee members. He pointed out from the letter that this person was concerned about the number of serviceberries in the plan and suggested reducing the number and maybe adding in some Blackhawk, viburnum, or nannyberry. They were also concerned about the perennials not being true natives and instead suggested some different species instead of hybrids or cultivars. They also were concerned about the presence of hardwood mulch.

Ms. Mariano responded that as far as the quantities of the serviceberries, the playbook mentioned the desire to have groupings of material so that it is not just a one-time deal, but it looks like it tumbled out of the forest. They have planned or 50, but they can scale back on the quantity. They were interested in making a robust statement for cars that are coming to Lake Bluff from the south. As far as the cultivars go, she said that she does not disagree with the conversation they had. She said Teska can certainly incorporate an all native plant list and still do it in a way that keeps the plantings relatively low and also colorful. Ms. Mariano said that she is unclear with the hardwood mulch question. She said that shredded hardwood bark mulch is typical and is an IDOT standard whenever there are plantings on the IDOT right-of-way. It is what is used to keep trees healthy and to put nutrients into the soil. She said that

instead of the hardwood mulch, organic or inorganic mulches can be used.

Member Twichell asked if these plants will be treated with salt or if they will be plowed and if so how is mulch kept if it needs to be plowed to keep the snow away. She also asked Ms. Mariano what she has done similar to this in other suburbs.

Ms. Mariano responded that there should be a lawn between the plantings and the pathway so that mulch does not spill over. PWS Terlap said that it will be plowed and snow is not pushed off as much as it would on the street on the bike path. He said that in extreme cases, the bike path will be salted.

VA Irvin added that a little bit of snow covered on the bike path makes it easier for runners, cyclists, and pets and the Village tries not to salt the path too much.

Ms. Mariano said that the plantings are native and salt tolerant species.

No action was taken on this item. The SEC additionally took a unanimous voice vote to move the Sustainability Plan Progress agenda item to the next meeting.

b. Backyard Chicken Program

AVA Cole presented the agenda item. The Village had a start-up pilot program in January 2018 and in February 2020 through 2021, the regulations had been adopted indefinitely. This was a Village Board action, so it does not require any further action, but the SEC has the opportunity to change it if they are inclined to. Two issues that will be discussed tonight are licensing cap on who can obtain a backyard chicken permit and about the review process. The Village Board had imposed a license cap, but left it in place at ten licenses. There are currently nine issued licenses and once they hit ten, the Village would not longer be able to consider further licenses. The SEC can recommend the Village Board increase or eliminate that cap. When the pilot program was originally drafted, it did not contemplate that those seeking a permit could ask neighbors to sign a piece of paper in order for them to get a pilot permit. As a Village government, we do not like to do things with the consent of neighbors as there is a due process issue as neighbors could want to refuse a neighbor having a pilot permit. There are some issues in the review process that were placed in the pilot program that is not working the way it should. The purpose of this discussion is to see if the SEC has any amendments or changes they would like to make to the permits.

Member Cole said that there was one family who did not have any experience in raising chickens and he has concerns for the chickens themselves because of the lack of knowledge or care. He would like to discuss what the renewal project could be. He said he personally does not care how many chickens are in the Village.

Member Barrett said that the Village does not ask homeowners how to take care of a puppy if it is their first puppy. She said there seems to be a chicken community an they communicate with each other. Member Cole shared his concerns over chickens and health.

Member Barrett said that there seems to historically be successes of chickens being kept in the Village. Member Twichell added that precautions can be taken. She added that with each permit, letters from neighbors are received sharing their concerns, but there are no complaints after chicken permits are processed.

Co-Chair Renner said that an inspection with the renewal process might be beneficial as well as a reviewal of any complaints received.

In response to a question from Member Hance, Member Twichell said the chickens do not need to go to the vet.

Member Cole raised how permits are not required for other pets and chickens are a different situation. He added that the chickens are used as a food source. He also said that he likes the idea of a vet, but he is unsure how many vets make home calls on chickens.

Member Twichell said that it has been successful so they should not create barriers for entry. She said ten permits for the Village is very light and it should be lifted. She added that neighboring communities do not have a limit.

Co-Chair Rener said that he spoke with Co-Chair Puryear and she said the limit of permits should be between 15 to 20. Co-Chair Rener said 20 would be appropriate and it can be revisited once 20 permits is reached.

Member Richer said that when the limit is raised to 20, the Village will not automatically receive ten new permits as it is not a common occurrence.

Member Twichell made a motion to recommend the Village Board increase the license cap to a total of 20 licenses up from ten. Member Richer seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	(6)	Barrett, Cole, Hance, Richer, Twichell and Co-Chair Rener
Nays:	(0)	
Absent:	(1)	Co-Chair Puryear

Member Twichell said that the SEC no longer wants the process of reviewing permits to be staff led since the Village is no longer in the pilot program. She added that staff can come to the SEC if they would recommend any tweaks to the permits.

AVA Cole said that permits can be renewed administratively and staff can inspect chicken again. Staff can give citation for a violation related to animal keeping and can require an inspection if they have probable cause to think that there is a violation relating to the licensed activity.

Member Barrett said that if it continues to be successful, the SEC can address whatever issue comes up at that time based on credible complaints. Co-Chair Rener added that as this is a renewal process, Village staff has discretion in that renewal process based on complaints.

Member Cole said that requirements or guidelines may allow permits to be renewed. He added that a complaint and other violations reviewed can subject the owner to the permit to be halted.

Co-Chair Rener said that Village staff should have some wise discretion and use a judgement call in case a license needs to be revoked.

Member Twichell made a motion for Village staff to use their discretion on renewing chicken applications. Member Hance seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	(6)	Barrett, Cole, Hance, Richer, Twichell and Co-Chair Rener
Nays:	(0)	
Absent:	(1)	Co-Chair Puryear

6. Village Staff Report

AVA Cole said that the intent when the SEC was organized was that the committee would primarily be staffed by the Village’s administrative intern. Moving forward, Samantha Lench will be involved in staffing the SEC. He asked if the group would be willing to accommodate meeting dates in case Ms. Lench is unavailable for the Wednesday night meeting in December. The meeting date for the SEC to discuss the 2019 Sustainability Plan progress would be Thursday, December 9th. The SEC said that Thursday meetings will not work in the future, but meeting on this day will be fine.

7. Member’s Report

There was no Member’s report.

8. Co-Chair’s Report

Co-Chair Rener said that the State of Illinois passed energy improvement laws including electrification. He asked for the Village codes person to give an update on the bill that as passed. A discussion on this matter followed.

Member Cole asked about the \$12 million Lake Forest received from IDOT to manage their stormwater runoff. Member Twichell responded that the money is going towards the construction on Deerpath. There will be an underground pumping station near the golf course.

Co-Chair Rener said that he would love to see the bike path extend through the downtown and to the beach. The bike infrastructure could be similar to that of Amsterdam or Chicago. He added that the SEC has a mandate on bicycles, paths, and walking and the SEC may consider issuing a formal recommendation to the Board to get this considered.

Co-Chair Rener also asked about the budget for the train station upgrades. He added that the bike racks proposed for the streetscape plans are non-secure bike racks. He would also like the SEC to be invited to Board meetings when bike planning is being discussed.

9. Adjournment

As no further business came before the SEC, Co-Chair Rener moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Barrett seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glen Cole
Assistant to the Village Administrator