

VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MINUTES

Tuesday, December 3, 2024 @ 6:00pm
Alexa Room – Village Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was called to order at 6:00PM.

Members in attendance: Amy Hartsough, Chairperson; Amy Decker; Sheila Schwarz; Susan Simmons, Hannelore Conley, Lorraine Leisenberg

Public in attendance: Spencer Knapp, Resident

Staff in attendance: Aaron Howe, Staff Liaison

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Spencer Knapp provided some background information and areas of interest to the commission.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. August 6, 2024

MOTION by Commissioner Schwartz; SECOND by Commissioner Simmons;
ABSTENTION by Commissioner Leisenberg;
5 – 0 Aye.

b. September 3, 2024

MOTION by Commissioner Schwartz; SECOND by Commissioner Simmons;
ABSTENTION by Commissioners Leisenberg, Conley, and Simmons;
3 – 0 Aye.

c. October 1, 2024

MOTION by Commissioner Schwartz; SECOND by Commissioner Simmons;
ABSTENTION by Commissioners Conley and Leisenberg;
4 – 0 Aye.

d. November 12, 2024

MOTION by Commissioner Simmons; SECOND by Commissioner Conley;
ABSTENTION by Commissioner Schwartz;
5 – 0 Aye.

4. STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Howe responded to questions from commissioners.

The next meeting of the Sustainability Commission is scheduled for January 7, 2025 @ 6:00pm.

Commissioner Schwartz inquired about the Pumpkin Smash composting event held at the Public Works Open House; Mr. Howe reported that 1.7 tons of pumpkins were collected for composting.

Chairperson Hartsough inquired about whether the future Groot curbside composting program would/could result in composted materials being available to residents. Mr. Howe will follow up with Assistant Village Manager Jon Pape.

Chairperson Hartsough informed Mr. Howe that the battery collection area near the front entrance of Village Hall needs to be addressed, including a new sign with updated/accurate battery recycling information. Mr. Howe will work with Public Works to have this resolved.

Commissioners briefly discussed Christmas (Holiday) tree drop-off/collection.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Sister Cities Presentation for April 2025
 - i. Chairperson Hartsough summarized the initial working session on the presentation: what we can do to engage with 16-year-old soccer players from France about how our sustainability initiatives compare to theirs.
 - ii. Mr. Howe will schedule another meeting before the January regular meeting.
 - iii. Mr. Howe will also begin working on presentation content soon with the smaller group.
 - iv. Chairperson Hartsough reminded the commission to contact the Sister Cities Commission if anyone is interested in hosting an exchange student.
 - v. Mr. Howe will speak with Lillian Mosier about these items.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. 2025 Event Planning

Chairperson Hartsough directed a conversation about 2025 event participation for the commission. A consensus was reached on the following items:

Events to attend:

April:	Presentation to Angouleme Soccer Exchange players Bon Appetit (Earth Month)
July:	Northwest Fourth Fest and/or 4 th of July Parade Mayor's Monarch Pledge (proclamation)
August:	Annual Recycling Event
September: or October:	Platzkonzert Celtic Fest
November:	Pumpkin Smash

Previous events that the commission may not participate in:

The next meeting of the Sustainability Commission is scheduled for January 7, 2025 @ 6:00pm.

June

Schaumburg Environmental Fair

Commissioner Conley emphasized the need for and importance of engaging with parents as well as their children during events.

Chairperson Hartsough proposed a focus on educating residents about any change in service that will result from the new Groot contract, including curbside landscape and food waste composting, in addition to ongoing efforts to encourage recycling. Ms. Hartsough highlighted the Fourth of July as an opportunity for the commission to have a tent on site and meet with residents face-to-face.

Commissioner Leisenberg suggested making recycling bins available within the commission's tent to educate residents on proper recycling habits. Commissioner Simmons concurred.

Commissioner Decker proposed working with vendors to use more recyclable materials instead of educating residents in attendance to make a larger single-day or single-event impact.

Chairperson Hartsough also proposed speaking with vendors at the Bon Appetit event as well, since there is overlap between the two events. Ms. Hartsough led a discussion on other possible initiatives for the event, including encouraging reusable utensils. Commissioner Leisenberg also highlighted the large amount of food waste produced at these events.

7. OTHER

Commissioners discussed upcoming plans for the Village Hall parking lot reconstruction project and possible sustainability initiatives that can be planned to coincide, including possible educational opportunities.

8. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.