

**Environmental Advisory Committee
November 21, 2019 at 7 pm
Huntington Woods City Hall
Minutes**

1. **Call to Order:** 7:05 p.m.
2. **Attendance:**

Member	
Julie Petrik	Excused
Daniel Brooks	Excused
Mari Masalin-Cooper (Secretary)	X
Sarah Jo Sautter	X
Bridget McKinley	X
Saulius Mikalonis	Excused
Aaron Retish	Excused
Ben Falik (Chair)	X
David Egan	X
Sophie Hart (student representative)	X
Jules Olsman (Commission Liaison)	
Amy Hood (DPW)	Excused
Amy Sullivan (City Manager)	X
Public Participants:	

3. **Approval of October 2019 Minutes** - Approved
4. **Food compost media campaign:** Sarah working on the Google sheets content calendar. One tab for content and 2nd tab for content ideas. Ideas can be moved into the content calendar. She will add the ideas we have generated so far. An idea can be promoted each month and the city can send out weekly messaging for the campaign.
5. **Green Infrastructure:**
 - a. Sustainability bonus – concept is to provide an incentive to incorporate items that the lower the greenhouse gas footprint homes. Need further discussion on appropriate incentives and what features could be incentivized – solar panels, geothermal systems, permeable pavers, rain barrels? Amy S. will send the character bonus language from the zoning ordinance that the planning commission uses to incentivize smaller massing of homes from the street. Amy S. will ask the intern to research if any other communities have a sustainability bonus program. Ben F. likes the idea of allowing more square footage. Mari C. thought a permit fee reduction doesn't require weigh-in of the planning commission. Ben F. not opposed to reducing building fees; but preferred bonus on square footage. Amy S. believes we need to work out the solar ordinance before discussing solar incentives.
6. **Zoning Ordinance**
 - a. **Solar ordinance review update** – Amy working on a draft with input from Aaron and looking at the ordinances from other communities. A final draft will go back to the EAC next month. Currently, our ordinance is written to discourage. David E. most opposition was based on the glint. P.R. said that residents could be opposed because of the glint. David E. said south facing is always best for year round.

- b. **Ordinance on application of pesticides and fertilizers update** – the planning commission has a public hearing scheduled for November 25th. Amy encouraged the EAC to attend if they were able to support the ordinance amendment.
- c. **Residential front yard landscaping standard** - discussed concern that alternative landscaping may be rat friendly. Could this be incorporated into the sustainability bonus idea?

- 7. **2020 meeting schedule** - approved
- 8. **Receive and file Meeting Policies and Procedures-** City Commission new meeting Policies and Procedures. EAC received and agreed to.
- 9. **Public Participation** - none
- 10. **New Business:** Amy S. informed the EAC that the City received the bronze certification for the Michigan Green Communities Challenge. Men’s Club is considering making the conversion of street lights the 2020 auction event. Amy S. said DTE is offering a discount to lower the payback period timeframe. City was going to go forward, but there was a concern about how bright and the type of light proposed. David E. asked to go to the Men’s Club and tell them that the EAC does not support the 4000K lighting proposal and recommends that alternative lighting can be reviewed.
- 11. **Committee member remarks:** Ben F. said the DPW no longer collects office paper bagged separately but it can still be bundled and put in recycling carts for a higher rate of return. Bridget suggests moving the annual holiday party to January and offered to host.
- 12. **Next meeting:** January 16, 2020
- 13. **Adjournment:** 7:59 p.m.