



**MEETING MINUTES
CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2024, 7:00 P.M.
VILLAGE HALL, ROOM 101**

A. Call to Order

Chair Kolar called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

B. Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Eid (joined at 7:10 P.M.), Elling, Kill, Lott, Miller (joined at 7:10 P.M. and left at 9:01 P.M.), Roman, Song, Wesonga (arrived at 7:10 P.M.), and Chair Kolar

Also present: Clerk Waters, President Scaman (joined after the applicant interviews and left at 9:09 P.M.)

C. Agenda Approval

Commissioner Kill moved to approve the agenda as amended; Commissioner Roman seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

D. Minutes Approval

Commissioner Song moved to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2024 meeting; Commissioner Lott seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed.

Aye: Lott, Roman, Song, Chair Kolar

Abstain: Elling, Kill

Absent: Eid, Miller, Wesonga

E. Public Comment

None

F. New Business

A. A Motion to Conduct Volunteer Applicant Interviews for the Following Individuals to be Considered for an Advisory Board, Commission and/or Committee:

- i. Jill Baker – Board of Health (BOH)
- ii. Rachel Michelin – Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)
- iii. Ericka Johnson – Transportation Commission (TC)
- iv. Germinal Van – Housing Programs Advisory Committee (HPAC) and/or Plan Commission (PC)
- v. Sarah Beck – Housing Programs Advisory Committee (HPAC)
- vi. Ricardo Hinojosa – Liquor Control Review Board (LCRB)

Commissioner Lott moved; Commissioner Elling seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Jill Baker is a registered nurse in an emergency department with a background in IT project management. She sees the consequences of bad behavior every day and believes there is so much prevention that can be done with better education. She has met with the BOH chair and discussed the public health director vacancy.

Rachel Michelin is a licensed architect with an area of expertise in building envelopes, roofing and exterior walls, restoration and repair. She co-leads a large firm of 100 people and has primarily commercial experience. She wants to bring her expertise and she still needs to meet with the HPC chair.

Ericka Johnson is a deputy agency head for the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation with a mission of consumer protection. She is a former trial attorney and criminal prosecutor for the Cook County States Attorney. She wants to serve at the local level and she still needs to meet with the TC chair.

Germinal Van has a political science degree and a master's degree in political management. He is a business owner and owns a publishing company. He is very drawn to economic analysis to formulate policies to facilitate people's access to housing resources. He prefers to serve on the PC but is open to other commissions as well.

Sarah Beck has been doing affordable housing development and project management for 12 years. She works with the low-income housing tax credit program to create new and substantially rehab old affordable housing. She works with the rental assistance demonstration program which moves Section 9 to Section 8 housing.

Ricardo Hinojosa works in health care in the Lawndale community and does clinic operations involving protocols and inspections. He volunteers for events and used to deejay and work with clubs and promoters. He can bring both the public health and entertainment perspectives.

B. Review of Board and Commission Vacancy and Chair Expiration Date Report – July 23, 2024
Commissioner Song noted the Zoning Board of Appeals has only four commissioners, which is the minimum number needed for a quorum.

Commissioner Kill said this report would be more helpful if the number of pending applicants is added. She said the website application should have a disclaimer that these commissions may be full. Clerk Waters noted the ongoing challenges with the Granicus software. In order to add that column, the data has to be tracked in order to be extracted. We are currently recruiting for the Environment & Energy Commission (EEC) and Building Codes Advisory Committee (BCAC).

Commissioner Lott inquired about the difficulty in appointing 5 members to the Community Relations Commission (CRC). President Scaman said we are working with the new chair, Chief DEI Officer, and Trustee Liaison Enyia to define the required skill set and then we can have targeted discussions on recruitment.

President Scaman said she and Clerk Waters should determine how to handle applicants who have been waiting who are not likely to be appointed. The Community Design Commission (CDC) and Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) are both currently on pause because we are considering merging those two commissions. We

are waiting on the legal language for what the new commission would look like. President Scaman recommended pausing EEC recruitment for the month of August as the new Chief Sustainability Officer is onboarded. She will make an announcement at the next Village Board meeting. Clerk Waters said she will then add language to the landing page.

C. Review of Advisory Board, Commission, or Committee Appointments at Regular Board of Trustees Meetings – July 9, 2024 and July 16, 2024

There were no additional comments.

G. CIC Liaison Reports

Commissioner Wesonga reported the Transportation Commission needs three commissioners.

H. Staff Liaison Report

Clerk Waters reported events she has done recruitment: Black History Month event (February), Neighborhood Clean-Up (April), Good Life Race (April), OPRF Block Party (May), Day in Our Village (June), Juneteenth (June), and Concert in the Park (July). Upcoming events are Fall Fest, Barrie Fest, and OPRF Civics Fair. The staff liaison orientations are going really well.

I. Consideration of Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) – Motion to Enter into Executive Session to Discuss the Appointment Recommendations of Volunteers to the Village of Oak Park’s Advisory Commissions, Committees and Boards.

Commissioner Roman motioned; Commissioner Wesonga seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. The Commission adjourned to Executive Session at 9:09 P.M.

J. Reconvene to Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 9:22 P.M.

K. New Business

A. A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Jill Baker to the Board of Health

Commissioner Eid motioned; Commissioner Wesonga seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved as amended. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Eid, Elling, Kill, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga, Chair Kolar

Absent: Commissioner Miller

B. A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Rachel Michelin to the Historic Preservation Commission

Commissioner Roman motioned; Commissioner Song seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the

motion was approved as amended. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Eid, Elling, Kill, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga, Chair Kolar

Absent: Commissioner Miller

- C. A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Ericka Johnson to the Transportation Commission

Commissioner Eid motioned; Commissioner Wesonga seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Eid, Elling, Kill, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga, Chair Kolar

Absent: Commissioner Miller

- D. A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Germinal Van to the Housing Programs Advisory Committee and/or Plan Commission

Commissioner Lott motioned; Commissioner Song seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Eid, Elling, Kill, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga, Chair Kolar

Absent: Commissioner Miller

- E. A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Sarah Beck to the Housing Programs Advisory Committee

Commissioner Song motioned; Commissioner Wesonga seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Eid, Elling, Kill, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga, Chair Kolar

Absent: Commissioner Miller

- F. A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Ricardo Hinojosa to the Liquor Control Review Board

Commissioner Roman motioned; Commissioner Eid seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Eid, Elling, Kill, Lott, Roman, Song, Wesonga, Chair Kolar

Absent: Commissioner Miller

- G. Review and Assign CIC Liaisons to Advisory, Boards, Commissions and Committees.

Chair Kolar said Commissioner Wesonga can no longer serve as the liaison for Aging in Communities.

Commissioner Eid said she will take Aging in Communities.

- H. Discussion on Agenda Topics for Upcoming Citizen Involvement Commission Meeting(s)

The August 7 meeting will not have applicant interviews. We will reschedule the October meeting date.

L. Old Business

- A. Calendarization of Activities we discussed at our working meeting

This item is tabled to the August meeting.

- B. Discussion to Coordinate Volunteer Time Slots for Go Green Days and Thursday Night Out

These events are on hold.

- C. Review of Onboarding Documents

These documents will be discussed at the August or September meeting.

M. Adjourn

Commissioner Wesonga moved to adjourn; Commissioner Eid seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:09 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Clerk Hansen