

**Town of Porter
Environmental Sustainability Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2024
Porter Town Hall**

A. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Tara Duffie Chair-Person

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Present: Tara Duffie, Jennifer Dimitroff, David Phillips, Allison Hultman, Devin Throw, and Isabel Durkin.

Absent: Mitch Reynolds

Also, Present: Tammie Sufana, Recording Secretary

D. Consideration of Minutes-September 17, 2024

Dave Phillips made a motion to approve the minutes of September 17, 2024, Jennifer Dimitroff seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

E. Audience Participation-Rick Wagner, 755 Waverly Rd, went to Town Council about a tree that was comprised. He had two trees in the Town easement marked and one was not supposed to be marked taken down by Justin's Tree Service. He came to Town Council looking for replacement and was denied. Mr. Barry told him to come to commission and explain Burr Ridge Illinois tree purchase program that helps find suitable trees for town easements. Tara Duffie and Allison Hultman both mentions they would look at it and check with NIRPC about extra trees.

Kimberly Ehn, 343 Rankin St, mentions that the Neighborhood Bird Walk had 10 participants including herself and was a success. She is looking forward to doing it again but without the rain. And we are officially a Bird town now for Indiana Audubon.

F. Old Business-

Mission Statement Subcommittee-Isabel Durkin mentions she compiled the information they had and came up with a mission statement for approval. The Environmental Sustainability Commission aims to protect our natural resources, promote sustainable development, and work closely with our community to preserve and prioritize our natural environment and lakeshore.

Isabel Durkin made a motion to approve the mission statement, Allison Hultman seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

G. NEW BUSINESS

Trunk-or-Treat-Tara Duffie mentions that we will have a table set up at the Trunk or Treat on Friday October 18. It will be a great networking event where you can talk

about what we do and there will be pamphlets. Devin mention that the High School will be having a Trick or Treat night on October 29, if you have resources they can put them out.

Pumpkin Composting-Jennifer Dimitroff mentions she would like to do a pumpkin smash in conjunction with park department. Not sure if we could pull it off for this year. You would put a target at the back of dump truck and the residents would throw there pumpkin at target. When we are down we can donate the proceeds to farms or Porter County Waste Reduction said you can bring to them. They are going to work on ideas for it.

Review Town Landscaping Code-Tara Duffie mention this is something that Mr. Barry asked us to review. Subdivision sections scattered he would like it more accessible and all in one spot. She recommends putting together a subcommittee and then review. Dave Phillips mentions that would need to know a little about the Plan Commission code about what builders can do. Allison mentions that we are not writing the code we only make recommendations. Dave, Tara, Allison, and Jenny will work on it.

- H. Comments from Floor**-Tara Duffie thanked Kimberly Ehn for leading the walk. And also mentioned the Jenny Dimitroff went a two day seminar for healing our waters. She also mentions we are \$2000 in scholarship/grant money for seminars and classes.

Allison mentions the RDC is moving forward with the exterior grant program. If you have any suggestions let her know and she will try to get them incorporated. Tara mentions that it is a matching grant program.

Adjournment- 8:08 pm

Tara Duffie, Chair-Person
Allison Hultman, Vice Chair-Person
Devin Throw, Secretary
Jennifer Dimitroff
Isabel Durkin
David Phillips
Mitch Reynolds

Tammie Sufana, Recording Secretary