

**MINUTES**  
**Ad Hoc Clean Air Counts Advisory Committee**  
**October 6, 2008**  
**Municipal Complex, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL**

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Hankins began the meeting at 7:02 p.m. on October 6, 2008, at the Municipal Complex in Crystal Lake.

**II. Roll Call/Attendance**

Present were the following Committee members: Pat Dieckhoff, Steve Fuller, Linda Gaska, Kim Hankins, Elizabeth Puchmelter, and Lehn Shepherd. Member Pauline Walker was absent. Also present were Larry O'Meara, Joe Lewis, Eberhard Veit, John Kavalunas, Andy Soden, Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce Green Business Task Force, Erik Schneider, Environmental Law and Policy Center, and Brad Mitchell, Assistant to the City Manager.

**III. Public Comment**

Chair Hankins discussed the procedures for the Public Comment period. Individuals that have general comments can speak during the Public Comment period. For individuals that have comments on a specific agenda item, there will be a Public Comment period at the end of the discussion of each agenda item.

Erik Schneider, of the Environmental Law and Policy Center, presented information on a bill that is currently in the Illinois House of Representatives called the Illinois Clean Car Act, which creates higher emission standards. Mr. Schneider asked the Committee to consider endorsing the legislation. Member Fuller stated that the largest form of air pollution is from car exhaust. The Committee agreed to draft a letter to local State representatives in support of this bill. Chair Hankins volunteered to draft the letter. City staff Mitchell stated that this letter would need to be approved by the City Council prior to being sent.

- **Chair Hankins will draft a letter from the Committee to local State representatives in support of the Illinois Clean Car Act bill.**

**IV. Approval of Minutes of the September 15, 2008 Regular Meeting**

Member Shepherd moved to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2008 regular meeting. Member Dieckhoff seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.

**V. Green Business Task Force**

Andy Soden, of the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce Green Business Task Force, introduced himself and stated that either he or another member of the Green Business Task Force would attend the Committee meetings. Mr. Soden discussed the green audit and assessment that is offered through the Green Business Task Force to business members of the Chamber. Mr. Soden stated that a handful of assessments have been done including the Shah Center. Chair Hankins asked that Mr. Soden bring a copy of the audit and assessment to the next Committee meeting.

## VI. Clean Air Counts Participation Status

### a. Newsletter Articles

City staff Mitchell stated that the deadline for the December 2008/January 2009 City newsletter is early November. Member Fuller suggested providing information on home heating/insulation topics. Also suggested was providing information that idling is not needed to warm up a car. Member Dieckhoff suggested doing a spotlight on green businesses for future City newsletters.

- **Member Fuller will draft articles for the December 2008/January 2009 City newsletter.**

### b. Lawncare Buyback/Gas Can Replacement Program

Member Puchmelter displayed the gas can that she received from ACE. Member Puchmelter stated that the State of Illinois was not going to make this specific can mandatory until July 2009. The can was \$9.99 from ACE. Member Puchmelter stated that the Committee should act in January/February 2009 on promoting this law change. Chair Hankins asked that Member Puchmelter outline a proposal for a gas can replacement program for the City Council's review.

- **Member Puchmelter will outline a proposal for a gas can replacement program.**

### c. Website

Member Shepherd encouraged Committee members to provide information for the website. Member Dieckhoff suggested information on the upcoming gas can law. Eberhard Veit provided information on bottle water. Member Dieckhoff asked that the following information be placed on the events page on the website:

McHenry County Climate Change Forum  
October 22, 2008  
7:00 p.m.  
McHenry County College

Beginning Bioneers Symposium  
November 8, 2008  
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
McHenry County College

- **Member Shepherd will have the requested information added to the website.**

### d. Bicycle Path Program

Chair Hankins asked about the status of the letter from the Committee to the City Council regarding bike lanes in Crystal Lake. City staff Mitchell will follow-up on the status of the letter. Chair Hankins stated that there will be a Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) informational meeting on Tuesday, October 7, 2008. Member Dieckhoff volunteered to attend the informational meeting. Chair Hankins also stated

that a Public Hearing for the UDO would be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2008. Member Gaska volunteered to attend. Member Fuller asked Member Dieckhoff to inquire about provisions being made for bike traffic and Member Shepherd suggested inquiring about open space for developments. Member Shepherd suggested that each Committee member review a section of the draft UDO document. The Committee agreed and will have sections review by next meeting to start formulating comments.

Mr. Kavalunas stated the funding is available through the Chicago Bicycle Federation for bike lanes/paths. Mr. Kavalunas also suggested funding through the Safe Routes to School Grant. City staff Mitchell stated that City Engineering staff is exploring that grant.

Mr. Veit stated that he written to the McHenry County Department of Transportation about the plans for Rakow Road. Mr. Veit was informed that it would be the responsibility of Crystal Lake and Lake in the Hills to fund bike lanes along Rakow Road. Chair Hankins will follow-up with Erik Morimoto, Assistant City Engineer, regarding the status of a possible bike lane along Rakow Road.

- **Committee members will review sections of the UDO.**
- **Member Dieckhoff will attend the UDO informational meeting on October 7, 2008.**
- **Member Gaska will attend the UDO Public Hearing meeting on October 14, 2008.**
- **Chair Hankins will follow-up with Erik Morimoto regarding a possible bike lane along Rakow Road.**
- **City staff Mitchell will follow-up on status of Committee letter to the City Council.**

**e. Idling**

Mr. O'Meara stated that he spoke with Jeff Karr of District 155. At the Vice-Principals meeting, who are responsible for putting up signs at the schools, they agreed off the record to put up the no-idling signs. Mr. O'Meara stated that Ron Miller, with District 47, wants to know when he can get started with the signs. Chair Hankins asked Mr. O'Meara to put together a summary of the no-idling sign program. City staff Mitchell displayed the no-idling signs that are up at the Downtown Train Station.

- **Mr. O'Meara will put together a summary of the no-idling sign program.**

**f. Business Development**

Member Gaska stated that she is still working on the Gantt Chart, which states the goals and objectives along with the person responsible, timeline, and steps towards accomplishment.

- **Member Gaska will continue to develop the Gantt Chart.**

**VII. Open Discussion**

Chair Hankins stated the Bronze Level application has to go before the City Council for approval. The Committee agreed to the November 18, 2008 City Council meeting as a possible date.

Member Puchmelter stated the Committee should emphasize its position on open burning and place information on the website. The Committee discussed that the issue of open burning is more of County issue. Member Dieckhoff suggested putting together information for next year.

Chair Hankins thanked all those who volunteered at the Johnny Appleseed Festival.

**VIII. Next Meeting Date**

The Committee agreed that the next meeting date will be November 3, 2008.

**IX. Adjourn**

There being no further business, Member Shepherd moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. Member Gaska seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.