AGENDA

Environmental Committee

Thursday, December 4, 2025
7:00 PM
1000 Woodfield Road

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG
PROGRESS THROUGH THOUGHTFUL PLANNING

A G E N D A

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. 10-2-25 Minutes

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Comprehensive Green Action Plan Update – Planning

B. 2026 Work Plan - Draft for Discussion

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

V. CONTINUING ITEMS

VI. DEFERRALS

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

IX. NEXT MEETING

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other applicable Federal and State laws, the meeting will be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Persons requiring auxiliary aids and/or services should contact the Village Manager's Office at 847.923.4705, preferably no later than five days before the meeting.

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

10-2-25 Minutes
12/04/25
Environmental Committee

Presenter:
Lead Department: Community Development

Executive Summary:

Recommended Action:

ATTACHMENTS:
- 10-2-25 EC Minutes.pdf

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm by Chairperson, Donna Panico-Atkins.

ROLL CALL
Members Present: Chairperson Donna Panico-Atkins, Donna Johnson, Pratik Patel, Ryszard Puskarz, Robert Wachsmuth, Elizabeth Wimmer, and Ritika Muthukumar

Member(s) Absent: Sandeep Alavandi and Mahesh Prajapati

A quorum was present.

Staff Present: Monica Richart – Sustainability Planner
Taylor Storm – Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 3, 2025
Mr. Wachsmuth made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Patel.

All Ayes. Two members were absent.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Recommendation to Select the 2025 Landscape Award Nominees**
   Ms. Richart stated that the nominees were selected by the Village's landscape inspector.

   A motion was made by Ms. Johnson to nominate Northwest Community Healthcare for Most Improved Commercial (Office/Hotel/Restaurant). Mr. Patel seconded.

   A poll was taken:

   Donna Panico Atkins – Yes
   Donna Johnson – Yes
   Pratik Patel - Yes
   Ryszard Puskarz - No
   Robert Wachsmuth - Yes
   Ritika Muthukumar – Yes
   Elizabeth Wimmer – Yes
   Sandeep Alavandi – Absent
   Mahesh Prajapati - Absent

   MOTION CARRIED: Vote 6-1 with 2 members absent.

   A motion was made by Ms. Johnson to nominate PGA Superstore/Xsport for Most Improved Retail (Shopping Centers/ Car Dealers). Ms. Muthukumar seconded.

   A poll was taken:

   Donna Panico Atkins – Yes

Donna Johnson – Yes
Pratik Patel - Yes
Ryszard Puskarz - No
Robert Wachsmuth - Yes
Ritika Muthukumar – Yes
Elizabeth Wimmer – Yes
Sandeep Alavandi – Absent
Mahesh Prajapati - Absent

MOTION CARRIED: Vote 6-1 with 2 members absent.

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson to nominate The Quin Apartments for Most Improved PUD (Planned Unit Development). Mr. Wachsmuth seconded.

A poll was taken:

Donna Panico Atkins – Yes
Donna Johnson – Yes
Pratik Patel - No
Ryszard Puskarz - No
Robert Wachsmuth - Yes
Ritika Muthukumar – No
Elizabeth Wimmer – Yes
Sandeep Alavandi – Absent
Mahesh Prajapati - Absent

MOTION CARRIED: Vote 4-3 with 2 members absent.

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson to nominate Schaumburg Bank & Trust for Best Maintained Commercial (Office/Hotel/Restaurant). Mr. Wachsmuth seconded.

A poll was taken:

Donna Panico Atkins – Yes
Donna Johnson – Yes
Pratik Patel - No
Ryszard Puskarz - No
Robert Wachsmuth - Yes
Ritika Muthukumar – No
Elizabeth Wimmer – No
Sandeep Alavandi – Absent
Mahesh Prajapati - Absent

MOTION FAILED: Vote 3-4 with 2 members absent.

A motion was made by Mr. Puskarz to nominate Barrington Orthopedic for Best Maintained Commercial (Office/Hotel/Restaurant). Mr. Patel seconded.

A poll was taken:

Donna Panico Atkins – Yes
Donna Johnson – Yes
Pratik Patel - Yes
Ryszard Puskarz - Yes
Robert Wachsmuth - Yes
Ritika Muthukumar – Yes
Elizabeth Wimmer – Yes
Sandeep Alavandi – Absent
Mahesh Prajapati - Absent

MOTION CARRIED: Vote 7-0 with 2 members absent.

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson to nominate Diamonds Direct for Best Maintained Retail (Shopping Centers/Car Dealers). Mr. Puskarz seconded.

A poll was taken:

Donna Panico Atkins – Yes
Donna Johnson – Yes
Pratik Patel - Yes
Ryszard Puskarz - Yes
Robert Wachsmuth - Yes
Ritika Muthukumar – Yes
Elizabeth Wimmer – Yes
Sandeep Alavandi – Absent
Mahesh Prajapati - Absent

MOTION CARRIED: Vote 7-0 with 2 members absent.

A motion was made by Chairperson Panico-Atkins to nominate North 680 for Best Maintained Planned Unit Development (Residential). Mr. Patel seconded.

A poll was taken:

Donna Panico Atkins – Yes
Donna Johnson – Yes
Pratik Patel - Yes
Ryszard Puskarz - Yes
Robert Wachsmuth - Yes
Ritika Muthukumar – Yes

Elizabeth Wimmer – Yes
Sandeep Alavandi – Absent
Mahesh Prajapati - Absent

MOTION CARRIED: Vote 7-0 with 2 members absent.

A motion was made by Mr. Wachsmuth to nominate Lurie Children's Hospital for Best Natural Landscaping. Ms. Johnson seconded.

A poll was taken:

Donna Panico Atkins – Yes
Donna Johnson – Yes
Pratik Patel - Yes
Ryszard Puskarz - Yes
Robert Wachsmuth - Yes
Ritika Muthukumar – Yes
Elizabeth Wimmer – Yes
Sandeep Alavandi – Absent
Mahesh Prajapati - Absent

MOTION CARRIED: Vote 7-0 with 2 members absent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. **2025 Environmental Fair – Final Report**
   Ms. Richart stated that she updated the final report with the committee comments from the September meeting for a record when planning next year's fair. Chairperson Panico-Atkins stated that this fair was one of the more successful fairs, that many people were engaged. Mr. Wachsmuth mentioned that the Comprehensive Green Action Plan gathered good information. Ms. Richart said this information can be used for next year. She mentioned that many responses included suggestions on types of activities presented by the fair. Chairperson Panico-Atkins suggested including the Green Action Plan responses and notes for reference in future meeting agendas when planning the fair.

PUBLIC COMMENT

DEFERRALS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Patel made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wimmer to adjourn the meeting.

All Ayes. Two members were absent.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Monica Richart Sustainability Planner

I have reviewed the minutes, and they accurately represent the actions taken by the Environmental Committee.

Taylor Storm, Recording Secretary

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Comprehensive Green Action Plan Update – Planning
12/04/25
Environmental Committee

Presenter: Monica Richart, Sustainability Planner
Lead Department: Community Development

Executive Summary:

The Village Board approved Schaumburg's Comprehensive Green Action Plan (CGAP) in 2009 and an update to the plan is currently underway. To inform the development of a new CGAP plan the village has undertaken a public engagement initiative led by the Environmental Committee and village staff. Community feedback will be used to calibrate plan goals to meet local needs.

Staff will present a status update on CGAP public engagement planning.

Recommended Action:

For discussion

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

2026 Work Plan - Draft for Discussion
12/04/25
Environmental Committee

Presenter: Monica Richart, Sustainability Planner
Lead Department: Community Development

Executive Summary:

Staff provides an annual summary of committee activities to develop a work plan for the upcoming year. As in the past, Staff reviewed the programs, initiatives, and activities from 2025 and is asking for Committee feedback to complete the work plan for 2026.

After discussing the work plan at the meeting, staff will prepare the final plan which can be used to track the Committee's events and programs during the year.

Recommended Action:

For Discussion

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2026 Work Plan

VILLAGE OF SCHAUMBURG
PROGRESS THROUGH THOUGHTFUL PLANNING

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 19, 2025

To: Donna Panico Atkins, Chairperson
Environmental Committee Members

From: Monica Richart, Sustainability Planner

Subject: 2026 Work Plan – Discussion of Activities

Introduction
Staff provides an annual summary of committee activities to develop a work plan for the upcoming year. Staff reviewed the programs, initiatives, and activities from 2025 and is asking for Committee feedback to complete the work plan for 2026.

In addition to typical annual programs, in 2025 the Committee again collaborated with the library to offer the Environmental Fair during the Summer Reading Challenge kick-off with a significant increase in fair attendance and participation. The Committee created an online survey to collect feedback for the Comprehensive Green Action Plan Update which received 154 responses. Additionally, the Committee conducted community engagement during the Environmental Fair which resulted in an additional 54 responses on the CGAP Update and suggestions for future sustainability programming. The Committee did not participate in Septemberfest in 2025.

Discussion
Below is a summary of last year's activities along with information that may be beneficial in determining which projects the Committee decides to move forward in 2026. Committee members should be prepared to discuss new events/programs they would like incorporated into the Work Plan.

In 2025 the Committee worked on the following activities:

Spring Electronics Recycling/Paper Shredding Extravaganza:
Once again, the village partnered with School District 54 and Schaumburg Township District Library on this event in April and turn-out was good. The 2026 event is scheduled for April 25th in celebration of Earth Day which is on April 22nd. The event will take place at the Wintrust Field west parking lot located at 1999 S. Springinsguth Road. Similar to last year's event, the village will likely charge a fee for television sets and computer monitors. All committee members must be available to work at this event for the entire day. *Staff recommends the Committee continue to support and staff this event.*

Environmental Fair:
Since 2013, the Committee has partnered with Schaumburg Township District Library to co-sponsor the Environmental Fair. In 2021, The Committee added Spring Valley Nature Center to the partnership and hosted the event at Spring Valley for several years. In 2024, the event returned to the library together with the Summer Reading Challenge kick-off event. The Environmental Committee coordinated the education program and several exhibitors, and the library coordinated additional exhibitors.

The Committee is planning on collaborating again with the library to hold the fair at the same time as their Summer Reading Challenge kick-off event on the first weekend in June 2026. The Committee will need to plan an Environmental Fair theme and interactive activities. The Committee may plan up to two (2) education sessions or an interactive session. The Committee will staff an exhibitor table and should plan environmentally based games in line with the theme. All Committee members should be available to work at this event. *The Committee has already committed to participating in this event in 2026.*

Annual Landscape Awards:
The 2025 annual landscape award nominees were presented to the Committee in October and the awards were distributed to recipients at the Village Board meeting on November 11th. Staff is planning to present the 2026 nominees to the committee in October 2026. *Staff recommends the Committee continue this award program.*

Al Larson Environmental Awards:
The 2025 award was distributed at the Village Board meeting on July 22nd. Village staff seek nominees through the Cracker Barrel, ENewsletter, press release, and social media. Committee members may also submit nominees if there is no personal conflict of interest. *Staff recommends the Committee continue this award program.*

Comprehensive Green Action Plan Update
In 2025 the Committee began work developing public engagement material and reviewing priorities for the planned update to the Comprehensive Green Action Plan. The Committee worked on developing community engagement materials throughout the spring of 2025 and staffed open house event tables on June 1st. Work on this long-term project will continue through 2026 and Committee members should plan to devote additional time to plan development and review. *Staff recommends the Committee participate in plan development in 2026.*

Environmental Webinar
The Committee has discussed adding an environmental themed webinar to the work plan for 2026. The webinar would be similar in theme to the education sessions previously presented at the Environmental Fair. Planning for the webinar may take place alongside the Environmental Fair or in place of planning previously allocated to Septemberfest. *Staff recommends the Committee participate in planning a Webinar in 2026.*

Suggestions for Environmental Awareness Initiatives:
From time-to-time Committee members propose ideas they feel will engage the community on environmental awareness. Committee members should bring any new ideas to the Committee to gain consensus and support from the Committee which will help to advance the initiative.

Below is a list of activities by month to help the Committee to visualize the year ahead.

<u>January</u>
- The Committee typically cancels the January meeting because it falls close to January 1. In 2025, the first Committee meeting would fall on Thursday, January 1.
- Rules of Procedure
- Environmental Fair:
    - Confirm location, date, time and theme.

<u>February</u>
- Recycling Event:
    - Engineering and Public Works to confirm date and times.

    - Engineering and Public Works will confirm partners and present a list of items to be accepted, outreach program, recruit volunteers
- Outreach:
    - Cracker Barrel article on Landscape Award and Al Larson Award recipients
    - Create the session titles and descriptions for an article in the Cracker Barrel. Share them with the library for inclusion in their spring brochure.

March

- Spring Recycling Event: Engineering and Public Works submits application for special event permit and publish webpage
- Environmental Fair: Continue event planning and coordination
- Outreach:
    - Cracker Barrel: Staff to provide articles (due mid-March; publication mid-May) about the following:
        - Environmental Fair
        - Monarch Month
    - Press Release, flyers, etc. for recycling event

April

- Al Larson Award Program: Recommendation to Select Nominees
- Environmental Fair: Continue event planning and coordination
- Recycling Event: Typically held near Earth Day – Date 4/25
    - Finalize the plans for the "day of" the recycling event

May

- Environmental Fair:
    - Publish webpage
    - eNews with article highlighting topics / speakers
    - Press release
- Al Larson Award presentation at Village Board

June

- Environmental Fair
- Webinar: Begin planning theme and format
- Outreach:
    - Cracker Barrel (Articles due mid-June; publication in mid-August)
        - Fall recycling event
        - Al Larson award recipients

July

- Webinar: Finalize planning theme and format

August

- Publish webinar

September

- Outreach:
    - Cracker Barrel (Articles due mid-September; publication mid-November)
        - Fall recycling event results

October

- Landscape Award Program: Recommendation to Select Nominees
- Environmental Fair: Begin planning the 2026 event

November

- Landscape Award presentation at Village Board

December

- Finalize speakers, exhibitors, and outreach campaign for Environmental Fair
- Outreach:
    - Cracker Barrel (Articles due mid-December; publication mid-February)
        - Landscape award recipients
        - Spring Recycling Event "Save the Date"
        - Ask for people to apply for Al Larson Award

Recommendation
For discussion.