



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission  
Tuesday, January 17, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.  
Tinley Park Village Hall – Kallsen Center  
16250 S. Oak Park Avenue  
Tinley Park, IL 60477**

**ROLL CALL**

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

- Members:** Chairman Antonio Halek  
Frank Markowicz  
Jeff Mech  
Paul Mikula
- Guest:** Jim Komraski
- Absent:** Beth Mikula  
Barbara Moore  
Kerri Roiniotis  
Village Liaison Steve Tilton  
Village Trustee Brian Younker

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by Antonio Halek at 7:08 p.m. in the Fulton Conference Room. Motion to open the meeting and approve the agenda made by Jeff Mech, seconded by Paul Mikula. Motion to approve the December 20, 2016 minutes made by Paul Mikula, seconded by Frank Markowicz. Approved by voice vote.

**Correspondence**

No correspondence.

**Reports**

Antonio Halek presented the budget report update.

**Receive Comments from the Public**

Jim Komraski stated there is discrimination against different associations with regard to recycling. Many single family homes are under associations as well. Much of it is for specifications for entryways, fences, etc. There are more and more homes these days under

associations. Not only are they discriminating against condos and townhomes but also discriminating against different associations now, which adds another discrimination level to it. Most have 2 garbage cans. If you have 1 recycling bin you can eliminate a garbage bin and reduce garbage from your garbage can and recycle instead.

Jeff Mech stated that the home associations are more for beautification. If you want garbage picked up, you have to do what Tinley says it needs to be.

Jim Komraski stated that when he talked to the mayor some months ago he was told that taxes don't pay for garbage.

Paul Mikula stated that Tinley used to have an open forum regarding garbage until they put their foot down and went with one to avoid confusion. The village manager took care of all that and how the garbage pick-up was going to be done.

Jeff Mech called Orland Park to see if they had an environmental committee. They do not. Orland signed with Waste Management in 2013 and have a 10 year agreement with them. They have the same situation as Tinley Park, single family homes, bins, recycling. Let associations do what they will for condos and townhomes. Also do not have a central recycling facility. The residents also complain of no room in their garage to store recycling. The village of Orland lets associations decide on recycling. Good to talk to him and get a feel for what our neighbor does.

Antonio Halek said the only option is to draft a viable resolution regarding cost and how to implement. A rational, logical solution on how to implement this on condos and townhomes needs to be presented to the village board.

Jeff Mech stated the best bet is to appeal to the board to get the facility reopened as the EEC is very concerned that many Tinley Park residents have no way to recycle their everyday items. They need to seriously consider and immediately open the facility 9-5 on weekends. We can't fault Tinley Park residents and should not penalize them. He will have something ready for the February 7<sup>th</sup> board meeting to present to the board. We are an extension of the village but we need to present our concerns that a lot of Tinley Park residents have no option of recycling their everyday options. This does not include electronics, which is a whole other issue. We recognize that the facility was closed before because people abused it and dropped off electronics and other items but we can't fault Tinley Park residents because we do not know that the drops off were being done by Tinley Park residents, it could have been residents from other towns. Public Works can monitor it and it could be a short-term solution until something more permanent can be done.

Jim Komraski stated the problem with the facility only being open on the weekend could create traffic problems. Maybe there can be a get at street level and the hours would be 8-4 Monday through Friday. If it is only open when PW is open then no one can drop off at night which he is guessing is the time most illegal drops are done.

Antonio Halek suggested that PW check ID's similar to the Household Hazardous Waste collections. Our previous system was unchecked and unmonitored and it needs to be monitored. Need to bring some structure to the facility. We need to further argue that we need to reopen the facility and we need to get our liaison Trustee, Brian Younker, involved. Maybe get signatures from condos and townhomes that want this to go forward. That is more long-term but we need a short-term fix right now.

Jeff Mech thinks it is best to drop the idea that PW employee can do it. We are trying to find a solution without having to hire someone. We need to have Tinley Park residents have the option to recycle even if it means PW employees having overtime. Our main concern is that Tinley Park residents do not have the option, are being penalized and this would be a Band-Aid for a short-term solution.

Frank Markowicz stated that this solution amounts to pennies for them so they should cooperate.

### **New Business:**

#### **Recruiting**

Antonio Halek reported that the EEC had Adam James and Michelle Sigler resign and are looking to recruit new members. If anyone knows of anyone interested, please have them submit a resume.

### **Old/Ongoing Business:**

#### **Spring Clean-up, April 22nd**

Antonio Halek spoke with Randy Couwenhoven (V-P of Tinley Park H.S.) for the permit for the high school. Got the event permit application that he needs to give to Vicki.

Antonio Halek suggested some interactive activities such as Bozo Buckets, the trash sorting game and the Kilowatt meter and power strip display. Hopefully this will lead to more community outreach and more recycling at village events. We have a surplus of the patches but we need to order rockers from American Patch. He will contact NuWay to see if they can join us and bring information on educational workshops and possibly a sign up for a visit. Antonio will also create the virtual backpack article, community newsletter and the article for *The Exchange* and the *Junction*. He will also need to purchase the wattage meter and power strips. After using the wattage meter we can give the meter to the Tinley Park library to continue educating the public.

Frank Markowicz will set up the rain barrel display, Beth and Paul Mikula will email the troops.

Antonio Halek will create the dos and don'ts fact information sheet to distribute and answer questions and create the map and list of parks for the clean-up.

### **Discover Tinley**

Antonio Halek stated everything from prior years stays the same such as the bags, seeds, etc. but also add the wattage machine.

Frank Markowicz will set up the rain barrel display, purchase the seeds and possibly set up a light bulb display.

Jeff Mech suggested a sign-up sheet for those who might be interested in joining the EEC along with a sign-up sheet for clean-up participants.

**Adjournment**

Paul Mikula made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jeff Mech. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

/dmp