



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission
Tuesday, October 19, 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
Jeff Mech
Aireen Arellano
Jeffery Loftus

Visitor: Ryan Schereck

Absent: Frank Markowicz
Village Trustee Brian Younker
Kevin Workowski, Staff Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by Chairman Antonio Halek at 7:02 p.m. in the Fulton Conference Room. Motion to open the meeting and approve the agenda made by Aireen Arellano, seconded by Jeff Mech. Motion to approve the August 15, 2017 minutes made by Jeffery Loftus, seconded by Jeff Mech. Approved by voice vote.

Correspondence

No correspondence.

Reports

No budget report.

Old/Ongoing Business:

Solar Proposal

Jeff Mech met with the Village Manager and Pat Hoban. Jeff stated that Dave Niemeyer said it would be best for the village as a whole to put a lid on the EEC efforts now to get the word out. It is such a complicated thing. The charging station makes too much sense not to pursue it.

Thinks charging station will go forward. The cost would be \$11-12 million for clean-up, plus the cost of the land purchase of \$4-5 million. Solar farm will not be happening at 183rd but possibly look at other areas in Tinley that can handle it. Open to looking at other sites in Tinley Park that might be more feasible. Incentives to investors will be offered along with LEED construction. Does not think the solar farm will justify the cost. Would not be a good idea to pass around a petition at this time. Gave examples of the Frankfort solar farm that is asking for upfront costs and investment. You would see a savings on bills. Need to keep pushing but not on that corner. Incentives to investors to do the LEED construction. Possibly an incentive to the building department for solar panel roofs. Need to make it an easy process so investor would be willing to participate. For example, Kohl's is a LEED certified building. Dave Niemeyer stated he would like to see something really unique at that location. Jeff stated a solar farm would be unique. Need to show the savings on the energy bills like Frankfort is doing. One other silver lining is that the new board and new mayor is very interested in going green.

Antonio Halek stated there would also be the brown field credit to consider.

Ryan Schreck asked what about focusing efforts on other areas such as schools. The advantage we have is that there has been no development at that site for 10 plus years. Need to show the benefits in Tinley that are currently paying electric bills and show them those that currently are solar receiving benefits. Set a perfect example for the village to ask why they have been sitting back on it and why not push for that development. Doesn't prevent us from promoting solar in the village. Shoot a goal of 50 homes to go solar.

Airleen Arellano thinks it is such a volatile topic, very political. Thinks we can take another approach. Jeff went through the right channels.

Antonio Halek said we need to make it easy for residents to see the benefits and the credits. We should push for solar panels being on top of industrial buildings in the industrial park.

Jeff Mech stated that we need the building department to make it easy on homeowners to get solar roofs if wanted. What is the process? Is it an easy process? Need to ask what happens if the village doesn't purchase the property and it stays state owned? What got their attention was the email from Hastings.

Ryan Schreck stated that it depends on what direction the house is facing. There is one Bristol Park home with a solar roof. Solar Power International will be at the Sheridan Hotel downtown this week if anyone wants to check it out. October 7th there were 1,000 places you could have checked out for solar ideas.

Jeffrey Loftus stated we should petition to have whatever goes in at the location to be LEED certified.

Antonio Halek thinks Jeff got some alternate ways of how to tackle this issue.

Ryan Schreck stated there are three areas: utility scale, commercial and residential. We are trying to push utility scale but we can try to shift that focus.

Airleen Arellano agreed. We went through the right channels, this might be more feasible.

Antonio Halek stated that we should try to build our display for the upcoming spring clean-up and Discover Tinley. We can also have a rain gutter display. Maybe at our next meeting we can discuss a plan to attack this into more bite size ideas.

Ryan Schereck suggested going after the library or the police department to get them to use solar panels.

Jeff Mech stated that we need to make it easy for any residents to come to the building department and apply for a permit for solar panels on the residences. Jeff stated that Pat Hoban mentioned a lot of open space by Family Harvest Church. Thinks the village is very open to this idea so we will pursue it.

Airleen Arellano stated that “LEED” stands for “Leadership, Energy and Environmental Design.”

Jeffery Loftus suggested enforcing whatever goes at that location be LEED certified and getting the village to enforce that.

Electrical Aggregation

Jeff Mech distributed the new flyer for everyone to review. Printed 125 copies. It is Aireen Arellano’s design.

Aireen Arellano questioned where we plan on passing out these flyers.

Jeff Mech stated the flyers would be distributed at EEC events, eWorks, any of our table events.

Ryan Schereck recommended having a booth at the Tinley Park Christmas Market similar to what we had at the Tinley Park Block Party, to promote the EEC.

Antonio Halek will check on availability for a table/booth at the Christmas Market.

EWorks Event

Jeffery Loftus stated that Brian Younker has been very happy with the event they had out in Orland and would like to continue the event in Tinley.

Antonio Halek hopes this will be the first and last time we will use EWorks as it is pretty expensive and the village is working on a new contract. We are looking for volunteers to help out at the event. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. to set up. EWorks will take the payments and volunteers will help with traffic control.

Jeffery Loftus suggested an express lane for those without televisions to eliminate wait time in line.

Aireen Arellano suggested flags/vests so that the volunteers will be easily identified. She also stated that there is a lot involved in recycling a television and thinks the fee is worth it and for a good cause.

Bio Blitz

Antonio Halek stated Bio Blitz was September 16th and a great turn out. Next year it was suggested that the EEC provide maps and better directions as the site is difficult to find, provide more water bottles for samples, and create information boards, more seltzer water and more buckets for samples.

Jeffery Loftus agreed that an information board of what everyone is looking for would be a great idea.

Antonio Halek is trying to get pictures on posted on the website. There were a lot more participants this year and great weather.

New Business:

Discuss Recycling for Townhomes and Condominiums

Antonio Halek stated that Homewood would pick up two TV's per year, per household, curbside. You call it in and it will be picked up at no extra charge. The contract is going out for bid.

Jeffery Loftus did some research into the waste/recycling contracts. He stated that Tinley's contract has been in place since 1993 and was last renewed in 2011 and runs until 2019. Tinley has the option to cancel at any time. Some things to note would be definitions of who would be covered, multiple family residences, condos, townhomes, and things of that nature. This is what we should recommend for curbside pick-up in our contract/proposal. He will look at the current Orland contract for comparisons and what to include. With Orland the condos and townhouses are under the village garbage contract and not on their own.

Jeff Mech stated that it seems the village board is committed to finding a new disposal service. We have been on the village to reopen the drop off site for recycling. That hasn't happened. We need to have them include condos and townhomes as a village ordinance to recycle.

Antonio Halek thinks there needs to be parameters for renewal of the contract. Also need to have more recycling bins at village buildings and village events.

Jeffery Loftus stated that Waste Management has a spring clean-up that can be worked into the EEC clean-up and everyone can clean out their garage. Tinley does not have an extra fee for yard waste through NuWay.

Jeffery Loftus explained the EEC needs to have the wording in the municipal contract for the multi-units. Incorporating that language into the contract increases that footprint for recycling. Also explain what can be recycled. Need to be part of an ordinance and under the village

contract so that they do not go with their own contract. Nu-way brought bins for garbage at the Block Party, they should bring recycling bins as well.

Ryan Schereck stated you need to make sure you have enough surface area for a recycling dumpster.

Receive Comments from the Public

No comments, no public.

Good of the Order

Antonio Halek spoke with the park district regarding joining them on Earth Day for the next spring clean-up. The park district is very interested in having a combined event with the EEC. The luncheon would be held at Bettenhausen and we would plan on lunch for 100-200 people and possibly going with Salinas catering. We would possibly be planting gardens and painting. The park district will be having kite flying and a birthday celebration. We would have EEC booths and displays and the park district would have their own booths.

Jeff Mech thinks everyone likes Rubino's but it would be a good idea to switch it up next year. He also thinks partnering up with the park district is a good idea but he also has some concerns. He is concerned that too much will be going on with the park district and the EEC would be lost in all of the other activities.

Antonio Halek stated that the EEC will still be giving out rockers/patches to groups that ask for them and have our own booth with our own ideas and information.

Ryan Schereck suggested a clean-up behind the Bettenhausen building.

Aireen Arellano suggested lapel pins in place of the patches/rockers.

Adjournment

Jeff Mech made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jeffery Loftus. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

/dmp