



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission
Tuesday, March 20, 2018 - 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
Aireen Arellano
Jeffery Loftus
Frank Markowicz
Jeff Mech
Kelly Mulqueeny, Staff Liaison

Absent: Village Trustee Brian Younker

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 **Jeffery Loftus**. Motion to approve the February 20, 2018 minutes made by **Aireen Arellano**, seconded by **Jeffery Loftus**. Minutes approved by voice vote.

Correspondence

No correspondence.

Reports

No budget report.

Old/Ongoing Business:

EWorks

Antonio Halek stated that EWorks will not be able to participate in the spring clean-up. Maybe we can reserve them for summer or fall? The EEC is pretty slow May, June, July, and August. They are booked a year in advance for Earth Day activities.

Jeffery Loftus asked if there would be that much of a demand if we have a June event.

Jeff Mech thought October/November would be a good time for the next collection with EWorks.

Aireen Arellano asked if we can start a conversation with Jeff at EWorks to see if October is possible for them. **Antonio Halek** will contact him as to his availability.

Recommendations to the Tinley Park Waste and Recycling Bid/Contract

Jeffery Loftus sent over the contract to **Kelly Mulqueeny** for review. Kelly forwarded the same to Pat Carr. Kelly stated that Pat Carr wants to wait until it is closer to the contract renewal date of September 2019 to review it. We will revisit the contract with Pat Carr six months down the road and clean it up. Kelly also stated that if we do all of the legwork and get where we can change the wording and just plug in information to avoid redoing the entire contract from scratch, everything would have to fit in to the current contract we have now and it would be helpful. The current contract is in paper form and in a file somewhere.

Antonio Halek will ask NuWay if they have a copy of the current contract as he will be there Thursday.

Earth Day/Spring Clean-up/E-works Event

Antonio Halek reminded everyone that April 21, 2018 is the EEC Spring Clean-up date. He stopped by Tinley Park High School and confirmed with Assistant Principal Randy that the event is still able to go forward. Sandwiches, pastas and non-meat options will be ordered from Salinas for lunch. Volunteers should arrive at 8:30 to get their assignments, clean-up until 11:00 and then have lunch around 11:30.

Frank Markowicz agreed with **Jeff Mech** and his meatless idea or at least offer meatless options. **Aireen Arellano** agreed pastas would be great.

Antonio Halek will purchase other items from Costco.

Jeff Mech will bring the A-frame signs. He suggested **Aireen Arellano** might want to recreate the signs for next year. If Aireen would get the designs to him pretty quick they might be able to print up the new signs this year.

Aireen Arellano will organize the poster contest.

Business Cards

Aireen Arellano showed samples of EEC business cards with village information, EEC email and website. She would like to place the order.

Kelly Mulqueeny suggested ordering more cards and possibly going through the village vendor to possibly get a mass discount and be consistent with other village business cards. Thinks we should just go ahead and place the order with Vista Prints.

New Business:

Tree City USA

Kelly Mulqueeny was able to get some information on Tree City USA and pass the information around for review. We would need an ordinance; we do have a tree ordinance in place but don't know if it would qualify to cover what they are requesting. We need to have \$2.00 per capita in our budget which we already do. Allowing you to cover watering, mulching, employee salaries, thinks budget has been bumped up to \$100,000.00 to cover tree planting per year. It was previously \$50,000.00. When emerald ash borer came through it was bumped up.

Jeff Mech thought we might fall short with our number of residents.

Kelly Mulqueeny said not it would not be a problem at all. Under the mowing contract is where we have the mulching for the trees so therefore she can take that whole amount and use it towards are budget. And I can use one employee for trimming and I actually have a crew of 4 so that should not be a problem at all. That would be a second check mark off. Also need a group that is dedicated to the tree but don't know if the EEC would cover that requirement.

Antonio Halek asked if there is a specific requirement for the trees.

Jeff Mech asked if there was a website. Sounds like Tinley Park is close to the requirements but not telling anyone.

Kelly Mulqueeny was not sure as she did not collect all of the information for this meeting. She has a file as this has been one of her goals for probably the last 15 years. We wouldn't tell anyone until we get certification. Some of the things are out of her reach, too much to do herself. Can we overlap? Can we be two different groups? Can we close the meeting and reopen the meeting?

Antonio Halek will try to find out what requirements are so that we can officially sign up.

Jeff Mech suggested that say we Tinley has met all the requirements, does it need to be officially sent to the board again for approval? Can't think of a reason why they would vote against it.

Kelly Mulqueeny said we would need to have the board sign off on it.

Frank Markowicz asked if we need an arborist.

Kelly Mulqueeny has one. He is a contractor through the village.

Jeff Mech asked what other towns are Tree Cities? Would they check up on us every few years?

Kelly Mulqueeny did not know but you can find it on the website or if you visit a town that is a Tree City you will see a sign stating that. You fill out the requirements but they don't check up. The budget is for replacement trees, not new trees. Keeping it at the same level. We will

remove a tree that is 50% dead. We are one of the few communities that is overplanted with trees. We have more trees than the average town.

Jeff Mech stated that Tinley Park should pat them on the back for this.

Kelly Mulqueeny stated that Tinley Park was one of the few communities that took down all of their EAB trees within one year.

Aireen Arnello asked who bestows the title on us.

Kelly Mulqueeny believes it is the Department of Agriculture.

Aireen Arnello asked what the procedure is.

Kelly Mulqueeny stated first thing would be to double check the budget. Then have to look at current tree ordinance and see if it matches requirements and if not then it will hold things up quite a bit.

Aireen Arnello would be surprised if we didn't quality.

Antonio Halek asked if there was a sample proclamation.

Kelly Mulqueeny has a sample in the packet. It's a huge packet. Maybe we can check with Orland and compare to see what/how they have done this. Thinks we need to plant a tree, too.

Antonio Halek said he is not sure why we don't do that anyway. A new tree should be planted every year.

Kelly Mulqueeny stated that we tag our trees that are not in front of a resident's house so you would be able to identify it. Might have to get with the park district and have them allow us to plant a tree on park district area.

Good of the Order

Antonio Halek will be at Discover Tinley to set up. **Jeffery Loftus** and **Aireen Arnello** will work the booth. **Frank Markowicz** will work at the booth and set up the rain barrel. Frank attempted to purchase seeds from Menards and talked to the manager but Menards is not coming down on their price of \$.35 a pack. **Antonio Halek** stated we would need at least 200 packs. Work schedule was discussed. Info packs to display at Discover Tinley were discussed/revised.

Aireen Arnello will create a tri-fold board to demonstrate what the EEC does at Discover Tinley and the Spring Clean-up. It is such a great opportunity to show people what the EEC is up to. The board will be on display at the clean-up and Discover Tinley.

Jeff Mech would love to bring people through a meat packing plant. There are 3 reasons to cut out meat: environment, health and animal cruelty.

Kelly Mulqueeny stated there is a documentary on Netflix right now called “What the Health?” Aileen Arnello informed everyone about “Forks over Knives” as another documentary to watch.

Frank Markowicz stated that palm oil is destroying rain forests and will not buy a product that has palm oil in it.

Aileen Arnello stated that the rain forests are going away to make room for cattle farms.

Jeff Mech stated that animal farms use up 25% green house gases.

Antonio Halek would like to discuss at the May meeting about our website/email address and getting the word out electronically. We will still use the yahoo email until everyone is acclimated to the new one **Aileen Arnello** started.

Jeff Mech stated that we will take pictures at the spring clean-up and upload it to our email, website, Instagram, etc. Do we need to have it approved by the village?

Aileen Arnello plans on using it for eco tips, upcoming events, pictures of past events, spreading awareness, etc. If we need to be under the Tinley Park umbrella maybe we can get an email from them.

Denise Maly-Politano stated there might already be one for the commission. Need to talk to the IT Department.

Jeff Mech inquired about FOIA.

Kelly Mulqueeny explained that FOIA allows people to get all sorts of things all times the time. We get 25 requests a day asking for all sorts of things. We spend all of our time collecting documents. All regular hours are being spent working on FOIA requests. Kelly will send an email to see if EEC can have their own email.

Receive Comments from the Public

No comments, no public.

Adjournment

Frank Markowicz made a motion, seconded by **Jeffery Loftus**. Meeting adjourned 8:08 p.m.
/dmp