



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission  
Tuesday, May 15, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.  
Tinley Park Village Hall – Fulton Conference Room  
16250 S. Oak Park Avenue  
Tinley Park, IL 60477**

**ROLL CALL**

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

- Members:** Aireen Arellano  
Jeffery Loftus  
Jeff Mech  
Kelly Mulqueeny, Staff Liaison  
**Visitors** Abbi Blake and Ashley Morgan  
Commission Secretary Denise Maly-Politano
- Absent:** Chairman Antonio Halek  
Frank Markowicz  
Village Trustee Brian Younker

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by **Jeff Mech** at 7:15 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 April 17, 2018 minutes made by **Jeffery Loftus**, seconded by **Aireen Arellano**. Minutes approved by voice vote.

**Correspondence**

No correspondence.

**Reports**

New budget available.

**OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS:**

**Recommendations to the Tinley Park Waste and Recycling Bid/Contract**

**Jeffery Loftus** reported it is ongoing and there has been no movement on it this month.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** spoke with Pat Carr and he stated that we are not going out for another year and is not in a big rush to do it. The more we get done for him the easier it will be for him to transition into it.

**Jeff Mech** asked if Pat Carr knows what is going on and has our recommendations, can Pat only recommend.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** stated that if it is already out there we need to put it in the newspaper, company and whatever is the best fit is the one we will take though there is not a lot of garbage companies. Everything we go out for bids/proposals people get tired of always putting in their bids/proposals and getting turned down. Need to keep it enticing, too. The board will go with the lowest proposal that is qualified.

**Aireen Arellano** stated that the EEC is leaning heavily on Orland Park and their ideas for the new contract. Need to find out which is most cost effective.

**Jeff Mech** stated this whole issue has been a political hot potato in town. Wonders what the board will do with it when it comes up for vote.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** stated we need to find out 1) what are other communities doing and 2) what is available? We don't want to put something out there where there is no company that does what we want or the price is way out there. The only question is what if we only have one bidder?

**Jeff Mech** stated our number one request is to get townhomes and condos to recycle. Kelly Mulqueeny stated businesses, too, since they are able to select their own collectors.

### **Earth Day/Spring Clean-up**

**Aireen Arellano** reported the event went smoothly, went really well, good response, nicer day than last year, had a lot of girl scouts and lots of residents that did not sign-up but showed up to help. Lunch was a really nice touch. Some didn't know about the lunch. Felt that everyone loved hanging out at the luncheon and reading about eco tips. Trustee Younker participated in the clean-up all day and cleaned up with his daughter. Next year is our 40<sup>th</sup> so it should be bigger. Hopes to include more interactive displays next year as it would be beneficial. Clerk Thirion helped and Trustee Glotz attended the meet and greet at the village hall.

**Denise Maly-Politano** stated that many volunteers were happy to not have McDonalds.

**Jeff Mech** stated Trustee Younker and his daughter were helping with the clean-up, stayed all day and went to the lunch. We should try to make the 40<sup>th</sup> special somehow.

### **Business Cards**

**Aireen Arellano** reported that business cards are on hold until the email situation is resolved. Went to the village hall and spoke with Laura Godette who said the EEC should get one email and only Antonio Halek and Denise Maly-Politano would have access.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** stated that the IT Department is already involved and was contacted first. IT stated we needed to check with Laura.

**Jeff Mech** thought that was a problem because of **Aireen Arellano** communicating with the troops and she wouldn't have access to the email.

**Aireen Arellano** said Laura made it clear that it should only be Antonio and Denise with access and Gmail should definitely not happen. Only the chairman has access. Has to go through TinleyPark.org.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** stated that anything that is EEC or village business it can be FOIA'd. The question would be how/can we forward the emails to someone else and how would that work?

**Jeffery Loftus** suggested having the EEC email as an addressee or carbon copied on.

### **Tree City USA**

**Kelly Mulqueeny** stated that Tinley is pretty close and should qualify. We have enough money in our budget for trees but the issue is to have a whole new committee or would the EEC be enough? We don't know what would qualify as a group. Don't know if same people could be on both. Ultimately, we need board approval. We have to have one about taking care of trees. Might be asked to report or fill certain things out.

**Jeff Mech** thinks a few things were already checked off but we need to find out more information on some issues. Has seen different towns while driving around. Towns are proud of it.

**Jeffery Loftus** found Orland and Tinley ordinances and will compare. Orland was Landscape and Tree Preservation. Assumes that is what they use to qualify.

**Aireen Arellano** will see if Orland Park has a meeting she can attend.

**Jeff Mech** loves the idea and thinks we should keep trying to find ways to do it.

**Jeffery Loftus** suggesting calling them, presenting what we have and trying to get a pre-application.

### **Discuss proposal to add information to TP resident's water bill.**

**Jeff Mech** read from an article on water usage and conservation.

Tinley Park residents now have the ability to monitor their water usage in near-real time thanks to the Village's brand-new Sensus Center, a web-based, interactive application that gives customers unprecedented access to their water meter accounts.

Sensus Center features easy-to-read usage charts, graphs, billing estimates, tips and more – virtually everything a customer needs to correct current issues and make more informed decisions about future usage.

The new Sensus Center can be accessed at [www.TinleyPark.org/SensusCenter](http://www.TinleyPark.org/SensusCenter). First-time users will need to click on “Need to sign up for an account?” on the bottom of the page and provide an email address. Sensus will then send an email confirmation to that address containing a link.

Jeff encouraged everyone to sign up for the “sensus” program through the village to monitor their water meter usage and account. Still considering officially recommending adding the water usage information on resident’s water bill. It would still be good to see what the average is and what people use. Very impressed with this and gives to kudos to whoever in the village came up with this program. Great that this website is available but would still consider recommending putting this information on the water bills for those that do not go on the website or use computers. He will draft something. Like residents to be more aware of their water usage.

**Aireen Arellano** asked if we would issue what it says on a month basis.

**Jeff Mech** said it would be quarterly.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** suggested putting information on website. We would also have to send information out to printer and see how much it would cost to print water usage information on the water bills. Would be worth it. Figuring out what we want is key.

Ashley Morgan likes the listing tips on how to save water.

Abbi Blake thinks there is a lot of research done on how you can save water when you brush your teeth, etc.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** stated we could have questions with answers and when you click on it you would be directed to a “did you know” blurb.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **MWRD Tree Distribution**

**Kelly Mulqueeny** will find out if we can still obtain trees. There are three different oaks. The trees and delivery would be free. Will talk to MWRD and see if we can order about 150.

**Jeff Mech** stated that we need to talk to MWRD, talk to Vicki about having a tent at the Farmer’s Market. Would need tables, chairs, tent, A-frame signs to advertise.

**Jeffery Loftus** suggested giving information on where to not plant tall trees.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** suggested basic information on what the tree will look like, and how tall, basic information. Delivery is free if we ask for more than 100. Will have delivered to the PW garage and distribute from there or at the Farmer’s Market.

Ashley Morgan suggested “Free Trees from the EEC” on a tri-fold would be helpful.

**Jeff Mech** suggested setting a target date for the trees at the Farmer’s Market.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** suggested finding out if we can obtain the trees first. The trees can be held at the garage until distribution. Needs to know what date it is so she can have the delivery at the Farmer’s Market that day.

### **Summer Meeting Schedule**

**Jeff Mech** thought we can stick with the same schedule and not take the summer off. Suggested being in good communication the week or day before regarding attendance.

**Jeffery Loftus** agreed to not having planned time off. Agreed to have enough notice so that we can post a cancelation notice.

### **Purchase of A-Frame Signage and Earth Flags**

**Jeff Mech** was quoted to print four spring clean-up signs it would be \$277.24 for 24x36 inch signs. Laminated, made for outdoors. \$69.31 each. Encouraged others to obtain other quotes. It would be a generic sign without dates so it can be reused. Earth flags are \$6.95 for an 8x12 with \$1.95 S/H. This would be used as a giveaway at Discover Tinley and the spring clean-up. Thinks we should plan way ahead and order a lot of 50 or more for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Motion made by **Jeffery Loftus**, seconded by **Aireen Arellano** to have four spring clean-up signs and two tree pick-up signs ordered. Motion made by **Jeffery Loftus**, seconded by **Aireen Arellano** to purchase up to a quantity of 100 earth flags.

### **Good of the Order**

**Aireen Arellano** shared an article “Together We Can” found in the Orland Township Focus paper. Residents are encouraged to drop off pet foods and aluminum cans to the township office.

**Denise Maly-Politano** stated Orland Township is having a shred-a-thon and electronic recycling on Saturday with a charge of \$35.00 for televisions.

**Jeff Mech** spoke with Mike Chambers regarding solar panels. There is a \$350.00 cost for a permit for solar panels. You also need a certification from the architect that the structure can support solar panels. There would be a rough inspection and then a final inspection. There are 3-4 requests per year for solar panels. Jeff would like to get an estimate of the money involved.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** stated that Florida is also doing something similar. Have to put trees in the parkway first and sidewalks before building. It helps with erosion, savings on heat and air conditioning. In the downtown areas they also have sprinkler systems that actually recycle water using rain water rather than community water.

**Jeff Mech** spoke with Jean Bruno and Mike Chambers regarding solar panels. Protocol is pretty simple. The permit cost from the village would be a \$350.00 cost for a permit for solar panels.

You also need a certification from the architect that the structure can support solar panels. Need to submit the documentation, they would issue a permit and then there would be a rough inspection and then a final inspection. Mike gave Jeff the phone number of a Tinley resident so he can talk with him about his experience with the village. Wants to talk with this guy who has the solar panels then get an estimate to see what it would cost for Jeff to get solar panels and an estimate of the money involved. Would like to see if the Junction might have an article on what is involved in getting solar panels.

**Aireen Arellano** thought the Junction would be very interested in a solar panel article. She would contact her contact at the Junction and have the article published.

Visitor Ashley Morgan asked if solar panels save residents money.

**Jeff Mech** said yes and Mike Chambers sent him information about solar for him to review. For residential homeowners on a 30 year mortgage, solar panels add \$40.00 to mortgage but you would save \$80.00 on monthly heating, cooling and lighting bills. Have to make the initial investment but you get it back over time. Residential vs. commercial/industrial would be good to keep in mind. Industrial/commercial buildings have the ability to get so much more out of solar because the roof/building is so much larger than a residential home.

Visitor Ashley Morgan asked if condos and townhome could do solar panels.

**Kelly Mulqueeny** stated it would have to go through the association but they would probably not be receptive to paying more for that benefit.

**Jeff Mech** reported that St. Stephen and St. Elizabeth Seton are having a pledge, care for our creation, care for our common home, act to change our choices, creation care team of 7 churches. Pope Francis stated we have to care for our planet and implemented this. Learn about and educate others on climate change. Act to change our choices and how they impact others, especially if they are poor and vulnerable. St. Julie had more than 140 people sign the pledge.

### **Receive Comments from the Public**

Visitors Abbi Blake and Ashley Morgan are interested in the EEC because it is something they were involved with in college and are concerned with climate change and water shortages.

### **Adjournment**

Motion made by **Aireen Arellano**, seconded by **Jeffery Loftus** to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

/dmp