



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission
Tuesday, August 13, 2019
Tinley Park Village Hall – Kallsen Center**

ROLL CALL

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

Members: Chairman Antonio Halek
Aireen Arellano
Frank Markowicz
Jeffery Loftus
Commission Secretary Denise Maly-Politano

Absent: Kelly Mulqueeny, Staff Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by **Antonio Halek** at 7:07 p.m. Motion to open the meeting and approve the agenda made by **Aireen Arellano**, seconded by **Jeffery Loftus**.

Motion made by **Frank Markowicz**, seconded by **Aireen Arellano**, to approve the July 9, 2019 minutes of the Environmental Enhancement Commission. Motion carried.

Correspondence

No correspondence received.

Committee Reports

Electrical Aggregation

Jeffery Loftus reported NIMEC recommended if the village wanted to continue with electrical aggregation then the village should continue with MC2. The contract went to bid. MC2 will match ComEd and provide renewable energy credits. It was recommended the village go with a two year contract. Again, it is still an opt-out program and participants can opt-out at any time. He did not attend the village board meeting regarding the final vote as it snuck up on him and was a special meeting that he did not attend.

Tree City USA

Tabled.

Rain Garden/Apple Pond

Tabled, however, **Aireen Arellano** and **Jeffrey Loftus** went to visit the site. The pond is located behind Orland Bowl. It is a revitalization of the retention pond with native plants around it, an ongoing project.

Booth at Farmer's Market

Aireen Arellano and **Jeffrey Loftus** worked the booth. Handed out business cards, people were really interested to find out when our meetings are. Good input from the visitors at the booth. Talked with visitors about moving spring clean-up to May to take advantage of better weather. Someone named Jen takes it upon herself to clean up the garbage on 183rd Avenue. She also got Metra to change the lights to LEDs but then found out it was a village thing with one side being the village and one side being Metra. Thinks it's important for citizens to become involved. Had some other great ideas such as getting the village board members to use tumblers rather than plastic water bottles at the village board meetings. Also, updating the water fountains to the ones that allow you to fill up water bottles. Talked with someone named Donna who was drawn in from our Meatless Mondays sign. Someone named Sally expressed interest in coming to a meeting. Her church has a garden and they use the harvest to provide food for the community.

Antonio Halek suggested a contact list/database of people interested in the EEC or activities.

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Garbage Contract

Jeffrey Loftus reported there was really great progress on the garbage contract. This was a special meeting. Approved Homewood for an eight year contract. This contract will begin October 1st. Some of the benefits include: lower price, increased services, pick up of 2 tv's a year, pick up and recycling of Christmas trees, senior citizen discount, disabled veterans discount, vehicles have to be environmentally fueled, condominiums and townhouses can opt into the village recycling program now. Looking into the contract there is no mention of apartments in this contract. That would be up to the property manager.

Antonio Halek suggested contacting Pat Carr to coordinate the electronics pickup.

Flares vs. LEDs

Jeffrey Loftus reported that Pat Carr will try to work the cost into the Emergency Management budget for next year.

NEW BUSINESS

Rating System for Tinley Park Restaurants

Frank Markowicz stated this rating system will be harder to do than we thought. This could affect their livelihood. Should stores be included? Some restaurants are allowing you to bring your own containers for your leftovers and we should somehow try to enforce that idea. This would need to be voluntary for all restaurants but hopefully we will get more that want to participate than those who don't. Thinking of looking into grocery stores too.

It will be tabled for now until we figure out who will do what and how this will proceed.

Aireen Arellano would like to handle that. Might need to do research on other cities that are possibly doing this. Would be great to give out stickers to business for recognition. We would need a rating card so that restaurants can see how they rate and how to improve.

Antonio Halek stated it might be a good 4th quarter project to work on.

Jeffery Loftus thought it would be a great way to promote Tinley businesses.

Good of the Order

Antonio Halek asked if anyone had any information or heard anything about this year's Bio Blitz. He will try to contact PW or one of our Bio Blitz contacts.

Aireen Arellano will try to email Lindsey from Huff and Huff.

Antonio Halek took the EEC information boards to the Oak Forest library and left them there for people to see and read. Try to bring the signs over to Tinley Park library and have a traveling exhibit of information regarding the environment.

Aireen Arellano thought it was a great idea that they board were being used to inform and educate people. The Girl Scouts expressed an interest, maybe teachers would get involved.

Antonio Halek is looking for product suggestions for giveaways at the next clean-up.

Aireen Arellano suggested pins, reusable metal or bamboo straws, and shopping totes.

Comments from the Public

No public, no comments.

Adjournment

Motion made by **Aireen Arellano**, seconded by **Frank Markowicz** to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

/dmp