



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission
Tuesday, November 12, 2019
Tinley Park Village Hall – Kallsen Center**

ROLL CALL

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

Members: Chairman Antonio Halek
John Houdek
Jeffery Loftus
Commission Secretary Denise Maly-Politano
Guest Donna Gillespie

Absent: Aireen Arellano
Frank Markowicz
Kelly Mulqueeney, Staff Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by **Antonio Halek** at 7:06 p.m. Motion to open the meeting and approve the agenda made by **Jeffery Loftus**, seconded by **John Houdek**.

Motion made by **Jeffery Loftus**, seconded by **John Houdek** to approve the September 11, 2019 minutes of the Environmental Enhancement Commission. Motion carried.

[Introduction of new commissioner and guest to current ones.]

Correspondence

No correspondence received.

Committee Reports

Electrical Aggregation no updates.

Tree City USA

Tabled.

Rain Garden/Apple Pond

Tabled.

[Explanation and update given by Jeffery Loftus to new commissioner John Houdek]

Guest Donna Gillespie stated she has been taking care of a pond by her house on her own for the last 15 years.

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Garbage Contract

Jeffery Loftus reported the new contract started October 1st.

John Houdek asked where the new garbage contract was being publicized, suggested tying the garbage contract to the village website and magazine to inform more residents. Possibly have an article in the village magazine leading readers to a website.

Antonio Halek suggested getting information out to the residents to let them know that the EEC exists and how to maximize recycling. Need communication and a hyperlink to the garbage contract. Need to figure out a good way to facilitate information to residents.

Jeffery Loftus suggested exploring: Get residents aware of what is out there, how can we get more information out to residents in the digital age?

John Houdek suggested: What is in your garbage? This is what you do, this is what you should do, and this is what you could do.

Antonio Halek stated the December meeting will be spent dissecting the garbage contract.

Flares vs. LEDs

Jeffery Loftus explained how a couple of residents report to the EEC how the leftover carcasses of flares used at concerts were affecting the environment. Looking for a more sustainable option and spoke with Pat Carr from Emergency Management. He reported that Pat Carr will be working the cost into the 2020 Emergency Management budget. Most fire departments do not use incendiary flares anymore.

John Houdek stated that his company no longer uses flares on the road anymore for the same reason. Uses triangles and LEDs. Uses 100% rechargeable and/or solar. Drivers bring in the flares to be recharged every three months. They last long when only used for an emergency. DOT law sooner or later. It is a hazmat situation and there are too many spills and you don't know what is on the ground already. Semi's have tire issues all the time. Tow trucks are still using regular flares and are supposed to be wiped out by January 1st. Cheaper if you buy by the gross. Runs about \$1.99 a triangle. For the triangles you need the right type for your situation as they can move around.

Antonio Halek stated it would be a good idea to all meet with Pat Carr, especially with John Houdek's knowledge and experience.

NEW BUSINESS

Rating System for Tinley Park Restaurants

[Explanation of rating system ideas discussed.]

John Houdek suggested you find something good in each one. Decide what you want to highlight rather than rating them. Send questionnaire to restaurant and give them the opportunity to change:

- Put with other tips and increase consciousness
- Food waste reduction
- Plastic straws

They have an opportunity to change and their customers have an opportunity to decide if they will continue to go to that restaurant or not. Good information for the general public.

Donna Gillespie agreed. It raises awareness of the whole community but don't name a specific restaurant. What to look for when you go to a restaurant. Instead of a rating system highlight what they use or are doing for sustainable. There are some great tips in the paperwork already that would also help the consumers and basic households. Start with raising consciousness in the whole community rather than targeting the restaurants. A different approach that the people can then ask the restaurants when they go to those restaurants. You want to raise awareness.

Antonio Halek suggested another title instead of a rating system.

Jeffery Loftus suggested a sticker identifying their involvement in being a sustainable restaurant.

Spring Clean-up

Antonio Halek suggested asking **Aireen Arellano** to create a new flyer. Antonio would like to coordinate with the Library, Park District, Fire Department, Police Department and Village employees to get everyone more involved and more input and coordination with them for their involvement. Lots of kids attend this event and we want to make it similar to a science fair and make it more interactive.

Jeffery Loftus stated we have boards with plastic examples and what to do with each type.

John Houdek asked if we have gone to the schools with that information and display. Need to get younger people involved. If we can get that into the schools that might get more students and younger people involved and thinking. He will check with Andrew High School.

Jeffery Loftus stated we also have a board six don't mix" to let everyone know that plastics designated a number 6 are not accepted as recycling. He will discuss with **Aireen Arellano** about creating a new information flyer.

Donna Gillespie asked if the EEC works with the Orland Grasslands at all. Suggested contacting Orland Grasslands for grasslands and seeds. It is also part of Cook County.

Motion was made by **Jeffery Loftus**, seconded by **John Houdek** to set May 16th and the tentative clean-up date. Alternate location to be determined if TPHS is not available.

Good of the Order

N/A

Comments from the Public

No public, no comments.

Adjournment

Motion made by **John Houdek**, seconded by **Jeffery Loftus** to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

/dmp