



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission  
Tuesday, December 10, 2019  
Tinley Park Village Hall – Kallsen Center**

**ROLL CALL**

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

**Members:** Aireen Arellano  
John Houdek  
Jeffery Loftus  
Frank Markowicz  
Commission Secretary Denise Maly-Politano

**Absent:** Chairman Antonio Halek  
Kelly Mulqueeny, Staff Liaison

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by **Jeffery Loftus** at 7:01 p.m. Motion to open the meeting was made by **Frank Markowicz**, seconded by **John Houdek**. Motion to approve the agenda made by **John Houdek**, seconded by **Frank Markowicz**.

Motion made by **Aireen Arellano**, seconded by **Frank Markowicz** to approve the November 12, 2019 minutes of the Environmental Enhancement Commission. Motion carried.

**Correspondence**

No correspondence received.

**Committee Reports**

**Electrical Aggregation** no updates.

**Tree City USA**

Tabled due to Kelly Mulqueeny's absence.

**Aireen Arellano** reported on what the program consists of, how it began and how it applies to Tinley Park. She explained it is a program to recognize a village with a certain number of trees. We need to fill out paperwork and file for the official title and recognition. She will send a link to a website for **John Houdek**.

### **Rain Garden/Apple Pond**

Tabled due to Kelly Mulqueeny's absence.

**Jeffery Loftus** stated this should be removed from the EEC agenda as this is an ongoing project and is self-supporting.

**Aireen Arellano** explained the Rain Garden/Apple Pond

### **Garbage Contract**

**Jeffery Loftus** reported they had intended to review the contract and this meeting and how we can get information out to the public to take advantage of the benefits to the fullest.

**John Houdek** stated we need short ideas, the good and bad, what it can do for you, etc., 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. He also stated having a flyer insert in the paper like Mokena does.

**Aireen Arellano** asked if the Junction covered the contract. She will ask if we can do an insert.

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

### **Flares vs. LEDs**

**John Houdek** distributed information. Flares are non-ecofriendly, LEDs are more expensive in the initial buy but you can get the price down. LEDs would be 1/10 of the cost of a flare as you can go through a box of flares in one day and these are reusable. They use AA batteries which is the biggest expense. They are stackable. Normally you put only one on the road and it is bright. There are brighter, more intense one, some have more than one mode and can flash. His trucking company got rid of the old flares a long time ago. This is a really easy, inexpensive fix and can pay for itself within a year's time. The batteries are another issue and someone has to manage that but maybe some kids can volunteer to replace batteries. Flares leave residue on the ground and turns into waste.

**Aireen Arellano** thinks it would be a great idea to set up a meeting with Pat Carr and provide him this information.

**Jeffrey Loftus** will set up a meeting with Pat Carr from Emergency Management regarding the purchase of LED flares in this year's budget.

### **Spring Clean-up**

**Aireen Arellano** will create a new flyer that can be distributed to schools.

**John Houdek** checked with the Tinley Park Fire Department and they will be more involved in the clean-up. They will donate fireman, just need dates, times, locations. Will need some details to share with the fire department.

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

**Denise Maly-Politano** checked with Tinley Park High School and confirmed the May 16<sup>th</sup> date is available. She has a form that will need to be filled out and returned to TPHS.

### **Website (Communication to Residents)**

**Denise Maly-Politano** will contact Jason Freeman regarding the creation of a hyperlink/website link to the garbage contract on the EEC page of the village website.

### **FUTURE BUSINESS:**

#### **Rating System for Tinley Park Restaurants**

[Explanation of rating system ideas discussed.]

**Jeffery Loftus** suggested rating on disposables, water usage, etc.

**Frank Markowicz** suggested bringing your own containers for left overs as he has done numerous times. He stated there were excellent suggestions regarding food waste, plastic straws, disposables, chemicals and silverware. **John Houdek** had some excellent ideas last month which were stated in the minutes.

**Aireen Arellano** liked the approach. Leave it up to the restaurant to think about, ask them what they are doing to help the environment. Intention was to start with a list of Tinley restaurants and gather information from them.

**Jeffery Loftus** suggested starting with a smaller subset and see their response.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Eco-friendly efforts by Tinley Park restaurants**

#### **EEC 2020 goals**

**Aireen Arellano** brought this up for everyone to think about for EEC goals in 2020. This would include the rating system for restaurants too.

#### **Good of the Order**

No Discover Tinley this year. The EEC expressed their disappointment. **Aireen Arellano** stated she personally gets a lot out of Discover Tinley and discovers businesses she did not know existed. **Frank Markowicz** asked if there will be any future dates or if it is a done deal. **John Houdek** thought the following year might be better as there can be a focus on all of the new Tinley Park developments, especially in the downtown area. **Jeffery Loftus** stated it is now more important than ever to focus on the EEC attending the Farmer's Market to get the word out about the EEC.

**Comments from the Public**

No public, no comments.

**Adjournment**

Motion made by **Frank Markowicz**, seconded by **John Houdek**, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

/dmp