



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission
Tuesday, March 10, 2020
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
Dave Bryla, WasteZero (Guest)

Absent: Chairman Antonio Halek
Kelly Mulqueeny, Staff Liaison
Commission Secretary Denise Maly-Politano

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by **Jeffery Loftus** at 7:03 p.m. Motion to open the meeting was made by **Frank Markowicz**, seconded by **Aireen Arellano**. Motion to approve the agenda made by **John Houdek**, seconded by **Frank Markowicz**.

Motion made by **Frank Markowicz**, seconded by **John Houdek** to approve the February 11, 2020 minutes of the Environmental Enhancement Commission. Motion carried.

Dave Bryla, WasteZero (Guest) made his presentation regarding the discouraging of landfill waste, food waste programs, curb recycling programs. Belief is that the closer you can get to recycling, the higher the success rate. The average U.S. resident generates 840 lb. per year and 8% of that is textiles. This program is intended to divert that. A bag is mailed to the residents' homes, fill the bag, set it next to the recycling bin on recycling day and WasteZero will pick up and bring to a sorting station. Things that cannot be used are further recycled into other items. Free to the city. Every pound collected gives Tinley Park a penny rebate. This could add up to a \$3,000.00 rebate annually. Donations are weighed and data is collected. This is such an easy program to run. Hopefully the residents will want to participate. Bags are bright orange and easily visible. Now plastics are used for railroad ties.

Aireen Arellano, John Houdek, Jeffery Loftus and Frank Markowicz all interested in the program. Want to look into it more and get other people from the village involved in the investigation. Would be great for someone from another town to talk about their experience.

[Discussion/presentation continued. Review audio and handouts for further information.]

Correspondence

No correspondence received.

Committee Reports

Electrical Aggregation no updates.

Tree City USA

Tabled due to Kelly Mulqueeny's absence.

Jeffery Loftus did hear back from Kelly. Kelly feels that she can get back into this in summer and will reach back out to us then.

Garbage Contract

Jeffery Loftus reported he will touch base with Nuway to see if we can get more information out to the residents. For ease of execution we should have links to Nuway so that we know what is going on with the contract. Also wants to look into other links that Nuway has on their website so that we can have links to that too. Great resource for residents.

John Houdek suggested getting the information out on the Tinley TV too.

Frank Markowicz thought it was a great idea.

Aireen Arellano tried to reach out again to the Junction and has not had a response from anyone. **John Houdek** also tried and had no response.

Frank Markowicz stated he thinks there needs to be more communication. There are a lot of things that need to be explained as to what can be recycled and what can't be recycled.

Flares vs. LEDs

John Houdek has reached out a couple of times to Pat Carr and has not received a response. He also found a new resource for ordering. Slow process but not getting anywhere.

Frank Markowicz stated the LED's are much more cost effective so he thinks they should agree to the LEDs.

Spring Clean-up May 16, 2020

Jeffrey Loftus stated we need to start working on a shopping list regarding clean-up.

Frank Markowicz stated that he sent an email to one of the links received from Denise and asked about seeds. Received no response. Called another contact and spoke with someone about seed packets. He was told that they do not give away free seeds, they sell them for \$400.00.

Aireen Arellano updated the flyer that can be distributed to schools. She will email to everyone for printing.

John Houdek asked about the other suggested clean up date.

Jeffery Loftus contacted Jim Calomino about the possible April date but has not heard anything definite back from him. Suggested having a rain date/make-up date.

Frank Markowitz assumes we need to have someone else involved in a clean-up on Oak Park Avenue since that is a busy street.

John Houdek suggested contacting our state representatives and having inmates help out.

Aireen Arellano thinks there are two separate audiences for the two possible spring clean-up dates. She will also try to contact **Antonio Halek** to see if he has heard anything from Boy Scouts.

Jeffery Loftus stated that **John Houdek** is the only EEC member that does not have an EEC polo. Polo needs to be ordered from Evon's.

John Houdek asked about the student volunteers at the high schools and if they have been contacted.

[Discussion continued regarding purchasing items through the purchasing agent, other spring clean-up details.]

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Rating System for Tinley Park Restaurants

Jeffery Loftus reported **Aireen Arellano** is working on this project.

Aireen Arellano stated she needs to go further down her list. She has not received a big response from restaurants. Only received a response from Pekoe & Bean. No straws unless someone asks and then it is a cardboard straw, cardboard take out containers, using coffee grounds for compost, cardboard coffee sleeves, tea ordered in bulk to prevent waste, no meat, only salmon. Mostly plant based menu.

John Houdek stated all of that needs to be published in the paper to make everyone aware.

Frank Markowitz stated that will be one of the few ways we will get restaurants involved. Thinks it would really prompt restaurants to get involved.

EEC 2020 goals

Jeffery Loftus stated spring clean-up is the first goal for 2020 and then others down the road.

Aireen Arellano found an app called I-recycle which tells you where your local recycling centers would be and breaks down items as to what they would recycle such as CD's at the Oak Lawn Library.

John Houdek stated the only things that would discourage people for some of the items would be the distance. He added that you can recycle batteries at the fire department.

NEW BUSINESS

John Houdek discussed the Tinley Park Mental Health Center. It is a big parcel of land but there are problems.

Good of the Order

N/A.

Comments from the Public

No public, no comments.

Adjournment

Motion made by **John Houdek**, seconded by **Frank Markowicz** to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

/dmp