



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission  
Tuesday, August 11, 2020  
Tinley Park Village Hall – Counsel Chambers**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by **Aireen Arellano** at 7:00 p.m. At this time, this meeting is being conducted pursuant to Governor Pritzker’s disaster proclamation and Public Act 101-0460, which amends requirements of the Open Meetings Act due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Pursuant to the same, the EEC finds that it would be impractical to conduct an in-person meeting with all members present. Commissioners confirmed they were able to hear one another. The **Script for Remotely Conducted Open Meetings** was read into the minutes by Aireen Arellano.

**ROLL CALL**

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

**Members:** Aireen Arellano  
Jeffery Loftus  
Frank Markowicz  
Hannah Lipman, Staff Liaison  
Commission Secretary Denise Maly-Politano  
Visitor Donna Gillespie

**Absent:** John Houdek

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF THE MOTION**

Motion made by **Jeffery Loftus**, seconded by **Frank Markowicz**, to approve the July 14, 2020 minutes of the Environmental Enhancement Commission. Motion carried.

**Correspondence**

No correspondence received.

**Old/Ongoing Business**

**Committee Reports**

**Electrical Aggregation** - no updates.

## **Tree City USA**

**Jeffery Loftus** contacted Kelly Mulqueeny for an update. She stated that is now on her fall/winter timeline for getting the applications for Tree City. Jeffery will check back with Kelly at the end of summer for fall/winter updates and if there is anything we can do so help.

## **Garbage Contract**

**Jeffrey Loftus** emailed the EEC certain websites from Nuway that he would suggest putting on the EEC webpage as a direct link. Jeffrey asked where these links would be best placed. Links include general services, what's recyclable in Tinley, a quick start guide and electronics pickup. The current recycling and garbage information page is a little cumbersome with lots of paragraphs and **Aireen Arellano** has some ideas on how to improve upon that.

**Aireen Arellano** thought all the information was fantastic and shows a clear call to action. She would like to see an e-waste button for scheduling with a drop down so you only need to check a box. The Homewood Disposal page has a similar set up. This would also include selecting the number of monitors or televisions that would be requested to be picked up. This would help someone looking for the information quickly. She will forward a website wish list to everyone for their input and ideas of what they would like to see on the website.

## **Flares vs. LEDs**

**Jeffery Loftus** tabled this in **John Houdek's** absence. John dropped off a case of electronic lighting flares in April to Fire Chief Reeder and he needs to follow-up and report his findings.

## **FUTURE BUSINESS:**

### **Eco-friendly efforts by Tinley Park Restaurants/rating system for restaurants**

**All present in favor of removing this from the agenda. This will be tabled/deleted from future agendas until businesses are fully open and we enter a more stable environment.**

## **EEC 2020 Goals**

**Aireen Arellano** shared some ideas on how to be eco-friendly during Covid-19 and ideas to decrease energy and water waste during this time. Suggested cleaning/recycling, more cooking at home and gardening/green thumbs and opt out of using paper and plastics, use reusable masks, reusable straws and napkins, biodegradable toothbrushes. Wonder if there are different stages of biodegradability?

**Denise Maly-Politano** mentioned finding a reusable metal straw that folds up into a tube and attaches to a key chain. These can be purchased on Amazon or at Bed, Bath and Beyond.

**Frank Markowicz** suggested starting a garden from seed and using the toilet paper rolls to fill with dirt and seeds, then bury those in the dirt and they disintegrate into the dirt.

**Frank Markowicz** stated it is hard to make plans when you do not know what the pandemic will bring.

**Jeffery Loftus** suggested continuing with ideas and sharing with everyone.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Conversation**

**Aireen Arellano** stated the EEC was contacted by the mayor's office to possibly get involved in this. Looks like a great program. We were not given much notice. It seems that the challenge usually is in the spring but was delayed like everything else due to the circumstances of Covid-19. Need to calendar this event for April 2021 and see if we can participate. This event seems really easy to get involved in. All marketing has been completed; EEC would just need to share the information. The event gives other mayor's opinions and seems to be an annual event. She hopes our mayor can record something for Tinley Park if we are able to participate. This event also gives water conservation ideas and you can see the city's current standings. If it is an annual event she would like to see Tinley Park involved in this challenge.

**Jeffery Loftus** stated this challenge looks like it is usually done in April but thinks it was pushed back this year. We should keep this on our radar to look into it then.

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

**Hannah Lipman** reported four resumes and letters were received from individuals interested in volunteering for a commission, and specifically for the EEC. It will be up to the mayor to assign the volunteers to a commission.

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

Donna Gillespie attended the EEC meeting remotely. She pointed out that she was on the EEC website and discovered the hyperlink to the EPA website was broken and she received an error message. She asked if we could have the hyperlink fixed. She also stated that the Goodwill on 159<sup>th</sup> Street accepts small broken electronics and will recycle those small items. She asked if Homewood Disposal would accept and pick up smaller electronic items or broken items and recycle those.

**Jeffery Loftus** believes there is a way to get those smaller items recycled with Homewood. He will look into it and get something about that up on the website as well.

#### **Adjournment**

Motion made by **Jeffrey Loftus**, seconded by **Frank Markowicz**, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

/dmp