



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission
Tuesday, October 13, 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 (remote)
Donna Gillespie (remote)
John Houdek (remote)
Jeffery Loftus (remote)
Brenna Molinare (remote)
Nicole Ryan (remote)
Brandon Wigboldy (remote)
Evan Vogt (remote)
Hannah Lipman, Staff Liaison
Commission Secretary Denise Maly-Politano
- Absent:** Frank Markowicz

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by **John Houdek**, seconded by **Brandon Wigboldy**, to approve the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion made by **Jeffery Loftus**, seconded by **John Houdek**, to approve the September 8, 2020 minutes of the Environmental Enhancement Commission. Motion carried.

Correspondence

No correspondence received.

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS:

Tree City USA

Jeffery Loftus needs an update from Kelly Mulqueeny in the fall. He will reach out to Kelly and ask what the EEC can do to help.

Garbage Contract

Jeffery Loftus discussed looking at other villages to see what they have on their websites for residents. There should be information on curbside services and links all in one place. He will continue working on it through October.

Aireen Arellano noticed that Schaumburg's website is very robust, easy for residents to navigate. Would love to see something similar created for Tinley Park.

Hannah Loftus stated that as soon as it is ready we can update the website with links, etc.

John Houdek suggested having a document within the water and gas invoices to give fiscal year updates. Also suggested a segment, "Did you know?" to give residents quick information on trash and recycling in the village. Every month would be a different tip to share with residents. He will email a sample that he received at work to everyone. This would be another way to reach residents.

Flares Update

John Houdek followed up and spoke with Fire Chief Reeder on the flares. The flares issue went dead without concerts due to Covid. For now it will be tabled as nothing is happening but still interested.

FUTURE BUSINESS:

EEC 2020 Goals

Aireen Arellano shared some ideas on how to be eco-friendly during Covid-19 and make little changes with a big impact in your own homes. Little changes can make a big difference. Links everyone has been sharing look very promising.

NEW BUSINESS

WasteZero Update

Aireen Arellano stated she reached out to three contacts, heard back from two, was able to actually speak with one. This was the Schaumburg connection and how their program fit into their current program. All residents get a mailer with two bags. When the bags are filled a resident can pick up a new bag from the village hall lobby when needed. Informing residents – website page on textiles recycling, newsletter, press releases, and social media. Make clear that WasteZero is a for-profit company but it does not cost the village anything to participate. This is in addition to those organizations. WasteZero takes other things that Goodwill will not. Positives definitely outweigh the negatives. Aireen Arellano will send stats information and survey results on how the program is doing in Niles, Elgin and Skokie for everyone to review.

John Houdek asked if they discontinued the rebate program.

Aireen Arellano stated they can't offer the same benefits/rebates now because of Covid. Originally there was a \$20-40 per ton rebate but not offered anymore. This is now a cost reduction program. The convenience to Tinley Park is curbside collection along with keeping items out of the landfill.

Latest Links/Resources by Members

Composting in Tinley Park

Donna Gillespie plants to attempt composting at her house. Don't know if we want to promote composting but it would be something else for the residents to do. Likes the textiles program.

CSA (Community Supported Agriculture)

Donna Gillespie sent a local link for a CSA in Morris, IL. Bray Farms. She went to the farmer's market. Nice to know there are other alternatives for someone who does not want to go to a farmer's market in person, mask up, etc. Can go to localharvest.org for more information.

Brenna Molinare stated Andelic Organics in Colondia, IL (Rockford area) where they will deliver to 6 or more households to our area and drop the delivery fee.

Brandon Wigboldy will look more into the LED lighting.

Hannah Lipman stated the village is in the process of replacing the street lighting with LED lighting.

Aireen Arellano said we need to know the pros/cons and the costs.

Evan Vogt is composting. There are certain garbage providers that offer residents composting within their garbage contract. There are options so you do not use up yard space for composting, use of red wigglers. There is an extra fee for composting (using Oak Park as an example) and you have to pay for a brush fee of an extra \$10.00. Convenience is what gets the most people involved. Massive composting works best. There is a large composting facility out of Hazel Crest but does not know where it goes from there.

Brandon Wigboldy asked what they do with the composting after collected.

John Houdek previously emailed information to everyone about garbage bin cleaning services.

Brenna Molinare suggested looking at Seven Generations Ahead to see what options are available for Tinley Park and what other areas are doing. Also suggested looking into pumpkin smashing in numerous areas for composting leftover pumpkins.

Denise Maly-Politano stated there is a pumpkin smash on November 7th at the park district. The pumpkins will be smashed and hauled away for composting. **Jeffery Loftus** found the information online and shared the specific details with everyone.

Nicole Ryan stated Bartel Grasslands is having a workday for volunteers on October 17th from 9 to noon to remove evasive species and a brush pile and burn.

Good of the Order

Ethics Statements and Open Meetings Act certificates need to be completed and submitted as soon as possible.

Comments from the Public

No public, no comments.

Adjournment

Motion made by **Brenna Molinare**, seconded by **John Houdek**, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

/dmp