



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission
Tuesday, October 12, 2021
Tinley Park Village Hall – Kallsen Center**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by **Aireen Arellano** at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

Members: Aireen Arellano
Donna Gillespie
Wesley Janicki (late)
Jeffery Loftus
Brandon Wigboldy (late)
Nicole Ryan
Evan Vogt
Teagan Wigboldy
Roger Zylstra (late)
Commission Secretary Denise Maly-Politano

Absent: Meaghan Kern
Hannah Lipman, Staff Liaison

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by **Jeffery Loftus**, seconded by **Nicole Ryan** to approve the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion made by **Teagan Wigboldy**, seconded by **Nicole Ryan** to approve the September 14, 2021 minutes of the Environmental Enhancement Commission as amended. Motion carried.

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS:
TEXTILE RECYCLING UPDATE

Aireen Arellano stated it is official and will start November 15th. The website rolled out today.

Hannah Lipman, in her absence, sent an email stating all was status quo. Will go live/roll out launch date of November 15th. Bags will be available/distributed November 1st.

Jeffery Loftus asked where bags would be available for residents and if the Village Hall should stock extra bags.

ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION UPDATE

Aireen Arellano stated the EEC is still looking for community contribution project ideas. [Further discussion about electrical aggregation and other ways to “go green”.]

TINLEY PARK COMMUNITY EMAIL

Aireen Arellano said Donna Gillespie submitted Question No. 2.: I missed the recycling event, when is the next one? Have ink cartridges to recycle, how do I do that? Donna showed a photo taken at Walmart with a recycling kiosk where cartridges can be recycled. Can also recycle at big box stores such as Best Buy, Target, Walmart, Staples and Home Depot.

Jeffery Loftus added recycling of propane tanks.

Evan Vogt stated propane tanks should always be stored outside.

LATEST LINKS/RESOURCES BY MEMBERS

Nicole Ryan gave an update on Bartle. Bartle in Tinley Park has a lot of activities. In October and November, seed collecting and a restoration work day. Daniel Suarez is the contact person for seed collecting. 30 positions available for volunteers. For restoration work day, meet in the Bartle main parking lot on southside of Flossmoor Road, West of Central Avenue. Contact person is Chuck Scanelli. Every other Monday and Wednesday is a seed collection and then restoration workdays. Goal is to get rid of invasive species and promote native species, which ties into Sag Moraine.

Aireen Arellano stated you can not plant native plants until the invasive are removed.

Donna Gillespie reminded everyone Earth 911 is a great website.

SAG MORAINES NATIVE PLANTS PRESENTATION COMMENTS

Aireen Arellano asked for feedback on last month’s presentations.

Teagan Wigboldy asked how can we incorporate what we learned? Can we put native plants in planters?

Evan Vogt stated part of the problem with native plants is that they are highly season. Ground installation is fantastic.

Nicole Ryan said the first step is to spread the word to get people involved. Also, the library is doing a restoration program so they might plant some there or try spreading the word to condo associations.

Aireen Arellano would like to get residents informed via a multi-email campaign, the newsletter, letting residents know when to clean up the yard, etc.

Evan Vogt thought it would go along with the community garden idea, less grass, less mowing and watering. Or possibly a kiosk idea so that residents can visit it while they are here.

Brandon Wigboldy suggesting planting on the corner of Oak Park Avenue by Banging Gavel. That is a high visibility area.

Jeffrey Loftus said we need to consider how much real estate would be beneficial.

Evan Vogt suggested a native plant sale and planting near Village Hall.

Nicole Ryan said she was sold on Sag Moraine's presentation and how important it is.

Brandon Wigboldy agreed and said it was something each resident could do to make a change.

Teagan Wigboldy suggested contacting Sag Moraine for ideas on where to start.

Roger Zylstra stated you have to see and explain the beauty of it to understand the benefit.

Brandon Wigboldy suggested including native plants in major projects going forward and include some elements of the native varieties such as putting plants in and around the Harmony Square project.

Donna Gillespie suggested contacting business on Oak Park Avenue that would be interested in having the EEC plant native plants in front of the business.

Jeffrey Loftus suggested connecting with the park district for planting ideas.

Aireen Arellano would like to ask about location, how big of a footprint and what is in season? Have to look at variables and be very strategic. First steps would be to contact Banging Gavel, Harmony Square and Oak Park Avenue for planting options.

Brandon Wigboldy and **Nicole Ryan** will contact Sag Moraine, along with **Wesley Janicki** for ideas.

FLAT CAN RECYCLING

Jeffrey Loftus thought the presentation was interesting to see how and what they did with everything collected.

Brandon Wigboldy agreed it was a good group to have for future events. Did not know how much could be recycled.

Donna Gillespie asked if Homewood recycles aerosol cans.

Jeffery Loftus said they will pick up aerosol cans but it ends up landfill.

Aireen Arellano stated she will invite Flat Can Recycling to attend our recycling event next year. Also have a potential partner with SCARCE for recycling books and school supplies.

FLARES USAGE

Brandon Wigboldy stated it was a topic in the past and wondered where we were at.

Jeffrey Loftus explained how the issue developed thanks to two Tinley residents who live near the amphitheater and brought it to the attention of the EEC. The resident was a chemical engineer and presented the ripple effect of flare usage and how it gets back into the environment. Would like to see LED flares used rather than traditional flares. Pro and Cons: incendiary flares always work, even under water; LED must be charged. We were working with Pat Carr who was head of the EMA at the time. Will check with Jerry Watts and the new Public Works Director to see where we are with LED flares and how we can do this. Pat Carr at the time was open to it.

NEW BUSINESS:

Community Shred Event & Food Drive (10/23/21)

Aireen Arellano had an overhead display with information on the Shred Event. Open to Tinley and Orland residents. Located at Grissom School, October 23, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Also recycling drugs and electronics.

Community Contribution Project Ideas

Some project ideas included: native plants, charging stations, continuing LED installation for street lights, flares.

Evan Vogt also inquired about salt v. something else being used for ice melt. Where are we on using more environmentally friendly ideas?

Donna Gillespie stated that Hannah Lipman was going to follow up and asked. It sounded like PW was handling this internally and not with the help of EEC.

Wesley Janicki suggested more bike lanes.

Brandon Wigboldy stated the dream is to have some sort of recycling station for people in the community, especially apartments, townhomes and condominiums. Need something local.

Evan Vogt stated the charging stations would be more of a private enterprise.

Brandon Wigboldy asked how many people a charging station would benefit? The amount of people and the level of impact?

Donna Gillespie asked if any of the village vehicles were electric?

Wesley Janicki thinks charging stations would become less expensive as electric cars become more available.

Jeffery Loftus suggested updating vehicles.

Good of the Order

Aireen Arellano met with Dave Niemeyer and wanted to congratulate him on his retirement. Has been a great partner with the EEC and personally sad to see Dave go. Pat Carr and Hannah Lipman will be great resources for us and the EEC is looking forward to continuing to work with them.

Name Tags

Denise Maly-Politano will contact Evon's about the name tag order.

Comments from the Public

No public, no comments.

Adjournment

Motion made by **Evan Vogt**, seconded by **Jeffery Loftus**, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

/dmp