



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission
Tuesday, June 13, 2023
Tinley Park Village Hall – Kallsen Center**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by Chairman **Brandon Wigboldy**, at 6:02 p.m., Tuesday, June 13th.

ROLL CALL

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

Members: Chairman Brandon Wigboldy
Stella Haddad
William Drobitsch
Dee Molinare
Kyle Vester
Evan Vogt
Roger Zylstra
Anne Mitchell, Management Analyst

Absent: Erin Bradley
Meaghan Kern
Teegan Wigboldy

Guests: Amanda Loxtercamp

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by **Brandon Wigboldy**, seconded by **Kyle Vester**, to approve the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion made by **Evan Vogt**, seconded by **Kyle Vester**, to approve the May 19, 2023 minutes of the Environmental Enhancement Commission with correction made by **Brandon Wigboldy**. **Dee Molinare** was not present at the May meeting, **Amanda Loxtercamp** was present. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Commission Appointments

Brandon Wigboldy welcomed all new commissioners.

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS:

William Drobitsch inquired about trees in the parkway. Residents should be responsible for watering and caring for the trees and some are not. Can we encourage residents to adopt a tree? Also would like to see more native tree options.

Anne Mitchell stated that trees are handled by public works. Knows there have been issues about native trees. Maybe we can do a promotional program if the tree is not doing well. Maybe we can suggest to residents to obtain a tree if they do not have one on their parkway, and suggest to public works to offer native tree options.

Evan Vogt asked if the village has an arborist.

Stella Haddad suggested encouraging residents to obtain rain barrels and empty them on certain days to water the trees in the parkway area. **Brandon Wigboldy** thought that would be a big project to undertake.

Anne Mitchell stated public works is responsible for removing dead trees or trimming if overgrown. There is not an expectation for residents for watering and caring for the trees. Some do not survive after planting.

Evan Vogt asked if there was a certain size in diameter for trees.

William Drobitsch asked if it would be more cost effective to have public works come out and water the trees or have to replace it if it does not survive.

Farmer's Market

Brandon Wigboldy spoke with Kelly who said we are welcome at any Farmer's Market. Volunteers need to be there from 7:30 to 12:30. Lots of shifts available and we need to let her know. We would pick a Saturday, try for one a month. Greek people, let them know the EEC exists and what we do. Distribute information on the EEC and get our information out there. We would share the booth and table with the village.

Evan Vogt suggested again providing bamboo straws to visitors.

Signage for Existing Native Plant Garden

Brandon Wigboldy found out the signage was never actually ordered. [Discussed verbiage]. 9x12 plaque with a stake.

Future Native Plant Ideas

Brandon Wigboldy inquired about future native plant garden ideas.

Anne Mitchell spoke with Kelly Mulqueeny who stated there is not much interest right now in setting up another native plant garden. There are discussions that do include other native plants. Very much in draft form and very early discussions but would love for the EEC to draft recommendations and be involved in the conversations and planning and be involved with the project from day one.

Evan Vogt asked about the 76th Avenue large culvert and if we can do something there. Right now it is a large grassy area with a flag pole on it.

Brandon Wigboldy asked about a timeline for drafting recommendations.

Anne Mitchell suggested August/September for Harmony Square. For the other project, possibly the end of the year. Formal, written documents with suggestions that the board might consider for future plans. How thorough and detailed is up to you. Suggested sending ideas to the EEC email then she can create a template.

Amanda Loxtercamp suggested more bike racks near the train station.

William Drobitch inquired about areas that no one is catching here. Areas that we can help beautify. Not major pieces or tracks of land but something not being used.

Anne Mitchell stated we need a block garden parcel essentially. Can reach out to the Community Development Department and see if there are any open lots and if anything is available.

Evan Vogt will put together a couple of drafts to finalize for ideas on Harmony Square.

Brandon Wigboldy set a July meeting deadline to get ideas started.

Recycling Extravaganza 2023 Planning – August 26th

Brandon Wigboldy submitted Part I of the permit application and then will complete the second part of the application. Have all vendors set. Have to update the map. Have to contact Marketing and let them know what is going on and what will be accepted during the recycling event that day. Flat Can and Earth Paint last year had some issues. Earth Paint will be there. Earth Paint is rolling back their pricing and most items will be free at this point so don't see a need to have Flat Can there. Because of that, do not really see the benefit of having Flat Can present there charging. Soles for Soles will not be present but the Lyons Club will collect for them. They will need another volunteer. Once we get final permits approved we will get everything sent out. Good thing is there is more opportunity to recycle but the downside is there may be less people attending our event. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., set up at 7:00 a.m.

William Drobitch inquired about seniors participating if they do not have a way to get there.

Stella Haddad offered collecting in her neighborhood and bringing it over but not everyone wants to do that.

Brandon Wigboldy explained this recycling event offers recycling of items not usually recycled elsewhere: textiles, eyeglasses, paint, aerosols, Styrofoam, electronics. We don't take light bulbs, batteries, or medicine. We have a very detailed list that goes out on social media, the village website, banners, email, newsletter.

Evan Vogt explained we usually review items being recycled to see if it is accepted or not and what vendors it goes to. Residents drives to that vendor, the vendor takes it and recycles it. If we can't accept it, try to give recommendations as to where they can recycle. Need to find someone that recycles old gas and oil. Vendors are not selling, but some have a service fee to dispose of the recycled items. Orland Township has a large recycling facility but there is a charge.

[Further discussion on how to advertise to residents, flyer, etc.]

Brandon Wigboldy stated Earth Paint is rolling back their prices for their 10th anniversary. The Napleton Auto Group is giving them a grant so free collection items will be aerosol cans, butane, propane, helium tanks, grout, adhesive, joint compound, and spackle. All of those items will be free.

Good of the Order

Kyle Vester suggested updating the website with information on recycling extravaganza and the current list of commissions.

Comments from the Public

N/A

Adjournment

Motion made by **Brandon Wigboldy**, seconded by **Evan Vogt**, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

/dmp