



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission  
Tuesday, November 14, 2023  
Tinley Park Village Hall – Kallsen Center**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by Chairman **Evan Vogt**, at 6:01 p.m., Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.

**ROLL CALL**

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

**Members:** Chairman Evan Vogt  
Erin Bradley  
William Drobitsch  
Dee Molinare  
Amanda Loxtercamp  
Roger Zylstra

Denise Maly-Politano, Commission Secretary  
Anne Mitchell, Management Analyst

**Absent:** Brandon Wigboldy (Assoc.)  
Meaghan Kern (Assoc.)  
Teegan Wigboldy (Assoc.)

**Guests:** Diane, Theresa and Ms. Gardner from Westpoint Meadows Subdivision

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Motion made by **Erin Bradley**, seconded by **Dee Molinare**, to approve the Agenda.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Motion made by **Erin Bradley**, seconded by **Dee Molinare**, to approve the October 10, 2023 minutes of the Environmental Enhancement Commission. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sound Study Discussion – Westpoint Meadows**

**Anne Mitchell** introduced owners/residents of Westpoint Meadows subdivision and the owners' concerns, complaints, and their desired sound study of the area. They would like to recommend to the village board having a sound study.

Resident Diane is a twenty years resident of Westpoint. Trucks can be heard any time day or night. Windows and doors have been replaced. Wondering why the subdivision was built without sound barriers like you see on 294. Concerns go beyond the noise. It is a quality of life and safety issue. Would like a noise safety study.

Mrs. Gardner also requested a noise study. This is quality of life. Impacting our ability to live safely. Had gunshots fired into her bedroom from I-80 traffic. How will this impact the noise when the Mental Health Center is being developed? The noise level has increased 22%.

Resident Theresa requested a noise study. Asked when it was built, when did Tinley Park approve the development? Found out it was 1999. This is quality of life. Impacting our ability to live safely. I-80 traffic is impacting their quality of life. Has reached out to Senator Hastings, Debbie Martin-Meyers, the governor's office again, and the mayor. Called Fox News, Ch. 5, Ch. 7 news. It sounds like a war zone some days in the subdivision. What is the most appropriate way for us to have a great quality of life? Asking for the board to support them. She has been in contact with the Illinois Pollution Control Board. If there is an increase in truck traffic then IDOT has to fix it. Need a wall, better street, braking control. Asked what the EEC is doing to help in the last 18 months when it was first brought to the EEC's attention?

**Evan Vogt** explained the EEC would make a formal recommendation to the village board to look into the problem, then the village board has to look into it. We are an advisory commission. Our biggest concern and issue is a jurisdictional issue.

**Anne Mitchell** suggested along with the EEC's formal recommendation to the village board to have a sound study. Would draft a formal recommendation to the board. We have contacted our lobbyists to push for this project. We have done our part but the biggest hurdle is dealing with state politics as this is an IDOT problem.

Resident Theresa stated it is a Type II abatement study, a noise study of Westpoint and the Pines. Would like the village board/trustee to look into a noise study. This would be from Oak Park to Ridgeland and I-80 to 186<sup>th</sup> Street. Asked if there is room for a berm? Explained the purpose of the nose study is to measure the decibels then determine the most appropriate method to alleviate and what risks are involved.

**Anne Mitchell** stated that if increased that would initiate IDOT to do something. If decibels are above a health crisis it will initiate the mandate that IDOT has to do something. Change could actually start happening.

Guest Theresa stated IDOT has to show/request a Type II abatement request to the Highway Department and then IDOT would put up a wall. Impact is too high of a level and impacting personal quality of life. Wants to know how seriously this board is considering our issue. This

situation will only continue to get worse with the development of the mental health center. Also have a petition going through the subdivision.

[Discussion continues about various studies, past problems, letters written, state representatives involved, other local government involved, etc. Handout provided.]

**William Drobitsch** asked to confirm the boundaries of the Westpoint Meadows subdivision.

[Discussion regarding the cost of the sound study presented by the residents of Westpoint Meadows and the cost to the village for the study. **Evan Vogt** explained we would recommend to the board to approve the sound study. **Anne Mitchell** stated we would need to get three quotes for the sound study and bring it to the board. **Erin Bradley** is not comfortable with a \$30,000-\$40,000 sound study as not an appropriate use of taxpayer funds. Comfortable recommending this is an area of concern and needs to be reviewed. **Dee Molinare** understands this is the mechanism to get the study before the village. It is up to the trustees as to whether to spend the money. The cost would be 1/10 of the overall budget. **William Drobitsch** reiterated we are recommending to the board that a sound study take place. It is then up to them to decide to provide the study. **Dee Molinare** stated the current invoice quoted \$14,900.]

**Erin Bradley** asked if the EEC has provided recommendations like this in the past. Comfortable asking the board to look into the study, this is an area of concern. Do not know if she is comfortable agreeing to a sound study and using taxpayer money in that way. Do not know enough about it.

**Anne Mitchell** said this would be a first. The EEC has not made any recommendations in noise pollution. There is no other commission that would deal with this issue.

Motion made by **Dee Molinare**, seconded by **Bill Drobitsch** to craft a recommendation to the village board to consider a sound study including but not limited to a noise study. Roll call taken. All in favor. Motion carries.

**Anne Mitchell** stated the EEC will craft a recommendation that the village board should address the noise issue within Westpoint Meadows townhomes subdivision including but not limited to a noise study.

### **OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS:**

#### **Recycling Extravaganza Update and Future Planning**

**Erin Bradley** met with the Marketing Department. Decided quizzes/surveys connected to social media outlets would then direct residents to event. Looking for more businesses to participate and possible survey questions. Looking for volunteers for service hours.

**Anne Mitchell** stated if someone cleans up and posts to social media, they can get a prize. Cleaning up the community and then leading up to the big event. Love gift cards and prizes. This will get the village board, mayor and clerk involved. Get more interest in our event. Try to get more businesses involved. Possibly reaching out to the Morton Arboretum, possibly getting

Target or Starbucks involved. Can work with Kelly Oswald and Amanda Gaus on reaching out to businesses and get them involved and see who would be interested in attending.

[Discussion on recycling event continues.]

### **Native Plant Garden**

**Erin Bradley** suggested a QR code leading to website. Some minor changes were made to the sign. Waiting for web development and update of Native Plant website with list of plants.

**Roger Zylstra** went to Menards and provided pricing for 3x6 bricks at a cost of \$239.20 for the bricks and paver base.

All in attendance decided to wait until the spring for purchasing and installation.

### **Environmental Resources Webpage**

**Anne Mitchell** basically wants to see if we approve of the contents of the webpage and then will ask Jason Freeman for a link to review before it goes live so that we can edit if needed.

All in attendance approve.

### **Commission Shirts/Name Tags**

**Anne Mitchell** suggested going with Sharp Mill for t-shirts and polos. Tote bag design cannot be used as it is too detailed.

[Shirt discussion/ideas continued.]

### **Recommendations for Future Village Projects**

**Erin Bradley** noticed Park Lawn is working with Cook County to bring in ecofriendly initiatives at their building. Also talking about bee keeping, pollinators, and other events. Working to implement rain barrels, gardening, etc. Reached out to someone to come to one of the EEC meetings to work with us.

### **Good of the Order**

**Evan Vogt** discussed next meeting of December 12<sup>th</sup> and if that date works for everyone with the upcoming holidays.

### **Comments from the Public**

N/A

### **Adjournment**

Motion made by **Roger Zylstra**, seconded by **Amanda Loxtercamp**, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

/dmp