

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 04/17/2012

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

January 16, 2013 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order Establish a Quorum

Chairman Beebe called the meeting to order at 7:09 P.M. Roll Call found Dan Beebe, Steve Carrow, John Symowicz, Mike Ferguson, Nick Fuller, and Bob Blaus present.

Also in attendance was Street Superintendent Tim Wilcox.

2. Approval of Minutes

A. Environmental Commission Meeting of December 19, 2012.

Mr. Fuller made a motion to approve the Environmental Commission Minutes of January 16, 2013, seconded by Mr. Blaus. All voted yea to approve.

3. Review and Discuss Commission Priority List

A. Current list

Chairman Beebe discussed improving the way the commission gets the word out on the various subjects/activities on the current list. He would like to see improved coverage in the newsletter by getting the advanced dates of deadlines for getting articles to Rosemary Mackey early for consideration. He is also aware of the City's on-line newsletter and thinks this would a good method to use as well. He will forward the deadline dates to the group once he gets them.

Chairman Beebe also plans to change to the monthly meeting agendas to be more detailed and item specific in hopes they may spark interest and also help get the word out.

Holiday Light Recycling

The program will end January 25, 2013. Tim will get the end of program totals and forward to the group once received.

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It was decided that next year's program will be held from November 29, 2013 – January 31, 2014.

Paper Shredding Event

Mr. Blaus offered that Village of Wayne will be hosting a recycling extravaganza on June 1, 2013. He thought it might be a good idea to have our City paper shredding event in conjunction with their event. The group agreed the date would be good to hold the event and thought City Hall parking lot would be the best place to have it. Mr. Wilcox will discuss this with the Public Works Director.

Rain Barrel Sale

The commission is again in favor of supporting the Conservation Foundation (TCF) through the sale of rain barrels. Chairman Beebe will contact Jim Kleinwachter from TCF to work out the details including dates for the sale period, and location for drop-off of the purchased barrels. Last year there was about a two month advertising and sale period.

The discussion briefly shifted to septic systems and gray water.

Blooming Fest

The question was asked if someone from Energy Impact Illinois could be at the Environmental Commission's booth at Blooming Fest. There may be only a limited time left for the rebate program by then, but it's possible there could be an extension to the program. Mr. Ferguson will contact Liz Opholt to discuss this.

Right of Way Maintenance Program Recommendations

The 2013 R.O.W. Maintenance program is already out for bid. There were no changes made to the program from the 2012 program other than changes in parcels to be maintained. Need to consider the best method for having Mr. Fuller's suggestions implemented.

LEED

Mr. Carrow's draft material should be the commission's top item for discussion in the following two months. A guest speaker on the subject was suggested as a primer to get everyone up to speed on the subject. Extending an invitation to infrastructure committee members if a speaker were to be arranged was also suggested. Mr. Carrow will work on finding a guest speaker.

The subject of the future park district recreational center was brought up. Mr. Carrow suggested informally contacting park district board members to get an idea of their views on seeking LEED certification for the new facility.

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There was a good deal of discussion between the members on the subject of LEED for new City buildings and/or proposing an ordinance for private and commercial construction. Chairman Beebe believes we need to provide the City with examples and make our recommendations.

Lighting Ordinance

Chairman Beebe indicated the commission should use the same approach with a proposed lighting ordinance as with LEED, provide the City with information and examples and make recommendations. Mr. Ferguson said he will do his best to try contacting someone at the Village of Homer Glen about obtaining an editable copy of their lighting ordinance.

Public Education

Mr. Fuller recapped his idea for presenting information to the community. He said he got the idea from Warrenville's Environmental Commission who partnered with their library to present information on environmental subjects. Mr. Fuller will try to attend their next program to evaluate and see what kind of turnout they get.

Adopt A Highway

Chairman Beebe would like to promote this program more than it currently is. He plans to contact aldermen to try to have them promote the program to civic groups in their wards.

The commission's next pickup dates are tentatively scheduled for April 13, and October 5, 2013.

Chairman Beebe reviewed the initial list of items from the first Environmental Commission meeting after being reformed in 2007. He mentioned many of the inactive items on the list. He will provide a list of all of the items to be tabled.

B. New Additions

No new additions.

4. Other Business

Mr. Wilcox will update the commission members contact information list and email to the group.

Mr. Blaus indicted SCARCE was holding an open house on January 30, 2012.

Next meeting is February 20, 2013.

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5. Adjournment

At 9:02 P.M. Mr. Ferguson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Carrow. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy R. Wilcox
Street Superintendent