

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 9/18/2013

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

August 21, 2013 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum

Meeting called to order by Dan Beebe at 7:00 PM. Attending were Mike Ferguson, Dan Beebe, John Symowicz, Laura Barron, Steve Carrow, Bob Blaus

Street Superintendant Tim Wilcox and Lauren Nowak, Vice-Chair of the DuPage County Environmental Committee were in attendance also.

2. Approval of Minutes

A. Environmental Commission Meeting of July 17, 2013

A Correction to the minutes was noted: Kris Zimmermann brought up compost recycling for discussion, not Laura. Mike F. made a motion to approve as corrected, John S. seconded. Minutes were approved.

3. Review and Discuss Commission Priority List

A. Current List

LEED

We had an overview discussion of what to recommend to the city for implementation. Various levels were mentioned. Steve C. is to draft up a summary for approval at the next meeting.

Community garden

It was agreed that the key issues to resolve were location, water, and park district budget/resources. Manville Oaks has a lot of room but there is no water available and it would be expensive to run a new line. Jesse at the park district has a very small crew, so would have difficulty adding this to their duties. It was agreed that the park district needs a champion on the board for this to go anywhere. Laura volunteered to contact park district board members to informally explore interest.

Lighting ordinance

Mike submitted a draft ordinance modeled on the one in Homer Glenn. He is waiting for the update they have recently done, and will have it ready for our review at our Sept. or Oct. meeting.

B. New Additions

Composting Ordinance

Dan submitted proposed new wording for the city's ordinance regarding composting so that it is more flexible to allow appropriate kitchen scraps. He checked other nearby cities to see how they worded it. Commission is to review and decide at next meeting what wording to submit to the city.

City Recycling Container Style and Location

Tim Wilcox pointed out that the city's contract with Groot requires them to place some recycling bins downtown, but this has not been done yet. The city needs to direct them where they should be located. This will get follow up, but pointed out that we should review the contract to see that it is being followed in other areas. We will put this on the agenda for a future meeting.

4. Other Business

Lauren Nowak gave updates on some recent county events:

DuPage County is now a cool county. We mentioned our commission had explored Cool Cities participation, but stopped when it appeared that it would need a "champion" and some person or group to spearhead the effort, and also no resources were likely available to do the baseline study, which at that time cost money to purchase the software. Since DuPage will be doing a baseline, it is possible that we might look at West Chicago becoming cool.

Community gardening networking event- Occurred on August 16, 2013. Nick Fuller is our point for looking into a community garden, but was not in attendance.

Ms. Nowak provided her Facebook address ([facebook.com/LNowakcountyboard6](https://www.facebook.com/LNowakcountyboard6)) where she has County program information posted.

Oct. 5, 2013 is the next road cleanup for our commission.

Oct. 22, 2013 is the Green Tie event which is a fundraiser for SCARCE.

5. Adjournment

Steve Carrow motioned to adjourn, John Symowicz seconded and the motion was approved by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.