

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 10/16/2013

MINUTES ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION September 18, 2013 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order Establish a Quorum

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

Street Superintendent Tim Wilcox and Kay McKeen, Director of SCARCE were also in attendance.

2. Approval of minutes

A. Environmental Commission Meeting of August 21, 2013

Minutes for August 21, 2013 meeting approved as submitted.

3. Review and Discuss Commission Priority List

A. Current List

Community gardens

Laura had informal discussions with director of the West Chicago Park District, as well as the Park district Parks Superintendent, and they are interested in hearing more about a possible program. Jesse, the Parks superintendent, also mentioned the America in Bloom program as a possible tie in, by planting fruit or nut trees.

City composting ordinance wording

We agreed to go with the simple worded option of the choices Dan provided. We will submit to the city and recommend that the ordinance be updated.

Holiday light recycling

We plan to do it again, will firm up locations and dates at next meeting.

B. New Additions

City recycling bins

Tim to bring us info to help with choosing bins. We need to make selection of bins and locations, and submit to Groot for their implementation.

4. Other Business

Kay McKeen presentations

Kay gave us information on new environmental initiatives that are starting in DuPage County.

Grease and oil recycling

SCARCE is working with Green Grease Recycling to start a FOG (fats, oils, greases) collection program. The kickoff will be Nov. 30, hoping to catch all the grease from Thanksgiving turkey deep frying. Some costs are involved with placing a collection bin and monitoring it. Some cities have already committed to long term collection bin placement. We agreed to participate, in the kickoff, and will need to discuss further to see if the city will be willing and able to fund long term

Fluorescent bulb recycling

Air Cycle, a Lisle based local company has equipment that crushes florescent bulbs, collects and separates the mercury, and makes recycling them cheaper than mailing them to recycling centers. Equipment has initial cost and periodic cost to collect the accumulated scrap. We will explore possibility of shared purchase and use of the equipment between the City and other West Chicago entities. Overall, recycling costs would be expected to be reduced significantly.

Nick Fuller resigning from the Environmental Commission

Nick informed us he will be moving out of West Chicago, so will need to resign as that occurs. He will pass on the information he has collected so far on community gardening.

5. Adjournment

On motion by Nick, second by John, meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.