

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 7/15/15 with changes

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

June 24, 2015, 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of a Quorum.

Chairman Dan Beebe called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Roll call found Commissioners Dan Beebe, Bob Blaus, Mike Ferguson, Kris Zimmermann and Laura Barron present. John Symowicz was absent.

Also in attendance was Assistant Director of Public Works, Tim Wilcox.

2. Approval of Minutes.

A. Environmental Commission Minutes of April 15, 2015

Commissioner Zimmermann requested an amendment to the minutes of April 15, 2015. In section 4, A, under the heading Blooming Fest in the first line, third paragraph, "ideal" was amended to read "idea".

Commissioner Ferguson moved to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Zimmermann seconded. All ayes to approve the minutes of April 15, 2015 as amended.

3. Public Participation/Presentations.

None

4. Review and discuss Commission Priority List

A. Review current priority list

Blooming Fest

Commissioner Zimmerman thought it was a good event and liked having a sign. Commissioner Beebe said the rain barrel sale count went up. Tim Wilcox liked Burpee by the Environmental Commission booth. Commissioner Zimmermann suggested promoting that the rain barrels are reused/recycled when selling them. Commissioner Beebe requested ideas for next year and if the Commission should continue using the solar house. All agreed plants caught people's eye to stop as well as the sign.

Adopt A Highway

Commissioner Beebe suggested rescheduling it in July. All agreed that Saturday, July 11 at 8 a.m. would be best. Commission members will meet on the south side of the Hobby Lobby.

Dark Skies and LEED

Commissioner Beebe said that Alderman of the 1st Ward, Jim Beifuss will attend ~~the next~~ *an upcoming* Environmental Commission meeting to address how to move Dark Skies and LEED to the Infrastructure Committee and also to discuss wind and solar initiatives for commercial properties. Commissioner Ferguson explained assessment process for wind power. Commissioner Beebe suggested moving Dark Skies and LEED recommendations to the Infrastructure Committee for review as soon as possible.

Paper Shredding Event

Commissioner Beebe asked Tim Wilcox if all of the rain barrels were picked up at the shredding event. Tim Wilcox said one rain barrel with stand was left because a lady cancelled her order. Two tons of paper ~~was~~ *were* collected at the event. Discussion ensued regarding ways to improve marketing of the event and timing it with similar events. Commissioner Zimmermann stated that the West Chicago Twitter feed didn't list the shredding event. Tim Wilcox said that it was difficult to find on the website. Commissioner Ferguson asked if the City email could include Environment Commission events. Commissioner Beebe suggested to check the Township schedule for shredding before scheduling the City event next year. Commissioner Blaus suggested combining with Winfield Township's recycling extravaganza. Tim Wilcox will check with the City Administrator to see if that is a possibility.

Pumpkin Recycling

Commissioner Blaus felt that for pumpkin recycling it would be best to direct people to Wheaton's collection.

Holiday Lights

No report at this time.

B. Discuss new additions to priority list

No new additions.

5. Other Business

Commissioner Beebe brought up a suggestion from Rosemary Mackie, Marketing and Communications Director for the City, to stencil storm sewers that drain to rivers. Tim Wilcox said the County has a program. The group was not in favor of the idea for a number of environmental reasons. Commissioner Blaus discussed no idling signs. He gave one to the library already. A location suggested for a sign was the Metra Station. Further discussion continued concerning where signs could be placed and where they are currently.

6. Adjournment

At 8:00 p.m. Commissioner Ferguson motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Blaus seconded. All were in agreement and said aye.

Respectfully, submitted,

Laura Barron, Commissioner, West Chicago Environmental Commission