

# CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved with changes 3/20/2019

## MINUTES

### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

February 20, 2019, 7:00 P.M.

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

Chairman Beebe called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Roll call found Commissioners Dan Beebe, Kris Zimmermann, John Symowicz, Joe Cavataio, and Bethany Brown present. Commissioner Bob Blaus was absent.

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

#### 2. Approval of Minutes.

##### A. Environmental Commission Minutes of ~~December 19, 2018~~ *January 23, 2019*

Commissioner Zimmermann made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cavataio to approve the meeting minutes of January 23, 2019.

Voting Yea: Commissioners Beebe, Zimmermann, Cavataio, ~~Blaus~~, and Brown. Voting Nay: 0.

#### 3. Public Participation/Presentations.

None

#### 4. Items For Consent

None

#### 5. Review and discuss Commission Priority List.

##### A. Review current priority list

Lighting Ordinance

Drew Carhart's speaking engagement is now set for 7:00 P.M. February 27, 2019 at Ball Horticultural. There was discussion about setting up for the event. It was decided members should show up between 6:15 – 6:30 P.M. to test equipment. Commissioner Brown indicated she would likely stay after work; she will also check to see if there is a no gun sign at the door. Ball is providing a table of refreshments. The chairs, microphone, and speakers should all be set up and ready. On Facebook 13 people indicated they were coming, 100 people indicated they were interested. Commissioner Zimmermann plans to provide the introduction for Mr. Carhart.

It was mentioned that the presentation will focus on sensible lighting and how that relates to the environment. This led to discussion about the LED street lights that ComEd is using to replace the existing high pressure sodium lights in West Chicago. The new lights seem very bright while standing directly under them but don't scatter the light out and away as much as the old lights.

#### Waste and Recycling Contract

Chairman Beebe indicated he would like to discuss this topic in detail at the March 20, 2019 Environmental Commission meeting. He will bring a list of suggestions to discuss to determine if they should be recommended for inclusion in the next waste and recycling contract. Chairman Beebe added that Wheaton's contract appears to be the most liberal to the residents of all that he has reviewed so far. He also believes the contracts may be evolving in that direction.

There was some related discussion, question of senior citizen discount, stickers verses tipping fee(s), where the nearest landfill is located (no one knew), and how some people used to burn their trash and that some likely still do. There was also a good deal of discussion about tipping fee(s) compared to the current contract and if it could work in West Chicago. It was mentioned tipping fee(s) would apply to recycling containers as well.

#### Blooming Fest

The first Blooming Fest meeting will be held tomorrow on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 10am at City Hall so there should be more information to discuss on this topic at the March 20, 2019 Environmental Commission meeting.

Mr. Wilcox will contact Groot to see if they will provide give away items again for this event.

It was mentioned as a reminder to ask Commissioner Blaus at the March 20, 2019 Environmental Commission meeting if he would inquire about the availability of the solar house display.

#### Holiday light Recycling

Mr. Wilcox is waiting to hear back from Elgin recycling for the total weight of string lights recycled.

#### Rain Barrel Sale

The site is currently up and running.

#### **B. Discuss new additions to priority list**

None.

#### **6. Other Business**

There was some discussion about the popularity of *Tidying Up with Marie Kondo* as well as free recycling, where people will let others know they have an item or items to give away to people willing to come pick them up or remove them from their property.

**7. Adjournment**

At 8:08 P.M. Commissioner Symowicz made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Zimmermann seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Wilcox, Assistant Director of Public Works