

# CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 04/09/19

## MINUTES

### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

March 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 7:08 P.M. Roll call found Commissioners Dan Beebe, Bob Blaus, and Bethany Brown present. Commissioners Kris Zimmermann, John Symowicz, and Joe Cavataio, were absent.

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

#### 2. Approval of Minutes.

- A. **Environmental Commission Minutes of February 20, 2019. Commissioner Brown made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blaus to approve the meeting minutes of February 20, 2019 with changes.**

Approval of minutes, item A, was revised to show the correct date of the minutes as January 23, 2019, and Commissioner Blaus was removed from the list voting yea, as he was not present.

**Voting Yea: Commissioners Beebe, 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

There was some discussion about Drew Carhart's speaking engagement on February 27, 2019 at Ball Horticultural. Attendance was discussed and it was estimated about 32 to 34 people attended the event. There was brief discussion about outside lighting, and mention was made that smart lighting options should be used when deciding to install outdoor lights. There was discussion about the control the City has during new construction with the permitting process however if businesses decide later to retrofit their existing lighting there is little or no control. This subject will be discussed in more detail next month.

## Blooming Fest

There was some discussion about what information and/or activities to provide at the booth this year. Chairman Beebe said he still has about 200 packets of milkweed seed that can be given away. This led to discussion about germination and possibly growing some milkweed plants to hand out. There was also a suggestion made to have a rain barrel at the booth. Chairman Beebe mentioned his idea to create a model of a working rain barrel system using a mini barrel and water pump.

Commissioner Blaus said he has not inquired about the availability of the solar house display for this year. He also mentioned the house is currently not at the SCARCE facility.

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

## Waste and Recycling Contract

Chairman Beebe indicated he will prepare a document containing a list of suggestions to review and discuss for recommendation to include in the next waste and recycling contract. There was some discussion about the current trend of landfilling plastics and low quality paper products. China stopped importing plastic in January 2018 due to the high levels of contamination.

## Adopt a Highway

Commissioner Brown indicated she was approached by members of a club from Aurora that wanted to unofficially adopt a road to clean up. They did not want to commit to doing it though. The City would likely not condone this without the proper application for Adopt a Highway and approval by Council. Chairman Beebe suggested they should look into participating in a prairie path or DuPage River sweep event instead.

Next clean up event is scheduled for April 27, 2019.

## Rain Barrel Sale

The information and link to the site is currently up and running.

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

None.

### **6. Other Business**

Commissioner Brown said she plans to participate in the Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) that the West Chicago Police Department is offering. It is an 8 week course to be held on Wednesdays 6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. starting April 3, 2019 and going through May 22, 2019. She will not be able to attend the April and May Environmental Commission meeting unless the dates of those two meetings can be changed.

**7. Adjournment**

At 7:55 P.M. Commissioner Blaus made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Wilcox, Assistant Director of Public Works