

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

July 22, 2009 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order Establish a Quorum

Dan Beebe called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Roll Call - Dan Beebe, Steve Carrow, Nick Fuller, and Norm Moseng were present Also in attendance was Street Superintendent Tim Wilcox.

2. Approval of Minutes

A. Environmental Commission Meeting of May 20, 2009
Approved by Dan Beebe. Seconded by Norm Moseng.

3. Review and Discuss Commission Priority List.

A. Current List

Action item: Tim to talk to Groot about multi unit recycling. Tim called the assistant to the municipal branch and got a call back from the director to answer questions he had. Tim wasn't able to return the call prior to the meeting. He did leave a message with questions the commission had and will let us know the results of his follow up.

Action item: Tim to talk to Rosemary Mackey about web articles. Rosemary wasn't able to attend meeting due to a prior engagement. She asked if the meeting could be moved to an earlier hour for her to attend. The commission members agreed they could attend the meeting at 6pm to accommodate Rosemary's attendance. Tim will see if Rosemary can make it.

Action item: Nick contacted Schaumburg about multi unit recycling ordinance and was informed that recycling is a percent of waste per person and is difficult to enforce. They said they are revising the ordinance and recommended making an ordinance as simple as possible.

Action item: Steve asked about getting a monthly report on recycling. Tim provided a recycling analysis report from Groot for the commission to review. Steve pointed out a report he had seen from DuPage County had more detailed information. Tim stated Michelle provided the numbers for our city to DuPage. The commission is looking for

data that separates overall waste from recyclable waste. Gross tonnage vs. the report provided maybe all that is required to satisfy the needs of the commission.

Action item: Steve will look for a link on the DuPage County site that provides info on recycling for 2008 that he can forward to the commission.

Tim provided a section of the contract on city landscaping practices regarding herbicide usage. The contract expires in 2011. Tim will scan future reference documents and e-mail them to the commission in PDF format to help eliminate paper distribution at meetings. Nick suggested eliminating 10-10-10 fertilizer by making it 0 phosphorus in the next contract. Nick believes Lincolnshire passed a no phosphorous ordinance. He will try to bring a copy of the ordinance with him to the next meeting.

Dan informed the commission that CFL bulbs weren't distributed at Railroad days. They will continue to be stored at the water treatment plant. Nick brought up the idea of replacing bulbs in city offices. Dan and Steve stated there were conditions that would restrict the distribution of the bulbs, i.e. to residents only. The commission suggested planning a booth (s) for the Blooming fest next year. Dan thought we might be able to do a doublewide booth on one of the ends of the fest. Ideas suggested were doing an earth day fest or tying it to Blooming fest but not doing both, bringing in conservation groups to make presentations with an additional booth(s), get sponsors to provide green gifts. Seeing if the city would wave booth fees to support conservation groups. Urban Owen is a speaker of interest.

Action item: Steve will talk to the park district about putting in a community garden. No action taken. Steve will try to reach Jesse Felix and bring results of the conversation to the next meeting.

Action item: Nick will get a sample of storm water retention from another source. Nick e-mailed a sample of Montgomery's code. Nick stated DuPage County has put together an ordinance and suggested that West Chicago add an ordinance to that.

B. New Additions

Tim had found a list questions that were submitted from citizens with environmental concerns at railroad days and blooming fest. Dan requested Tim to forward the list to the commission members. Steve recommended putting answers to questions on the city website. Nick suggested having a web email site that would be a question and answer platform for environmental concerns.

4. Other Business

5. Adjournment

Norm motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. Nick seconded. Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 P.M.