

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 01/16/2013

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

December 19, 2012 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order Establish a Quorum

Dan Beebe called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. Roll Call found Dan Beebe, John Symowicz, Mike Ferguson, Nick Fuller, and Bob Blaus present.

Also in attendance was Street Superintendent Tim Wilcox.

2. Approval of Minutes

A. Environmental Commission Meeting of November 14, 2012.

Mike Ferguson made a motion to approve the Environmental Commission Minutes of July 18, 2012, seconded by John Symowicz. All voted yea to approve.

3. Review and Discuss Commission Priority List

A. Current list

Holiday Light Recycling

The subject was briefly discussed. Although the volume was not expected to be as great as the first year of the program, Tim indicated that at least one full Gaylord container of light strings has been collected so far.

Paper Shredding Event

Bob asked if there were any plans or dates in mind for the 2013 paper shredding event. Earth Day is in April so if that is a consideration advertising should start as soon as possible.

Environmental Commission Meeting
December 19, 2012
Page 1 of 3

475 Main Street
West Chicago, Illinois
60185

T (630) 293-2200
F (630) 293-3028
www.westchicago.org

Michael B. Kwasman
MAYOR
Nancy M. Smith
CITY CLERK

Donald F. Earley
CITY TREASURER
Michael L. Guttman
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Right of Way Maintenance Program Recommendations

Nick indicated he has no new information to share on this. He will continue to look for examples from other communities.

Lighting Ordinance

Mike Ferguson brought to the meeting a copy of Homer Glen's light ordinance. He passed it around for others to read. It covers both commercial and residential lighting requirements. Dan thought it was very well written and thinks it could be used as an example of what to recommend here in West Chicago. Dan said he will scan the document and email to everyone to read. Mike will contact someone at the Village of Homer Glen to see if an editable Word document form is available.

LEED

Steve Carrow was not present and the draft material he prepared was only briefly discussed, as not everyone had a chance to review the material. Nick indicated he attended a seminar in Chicago where he met Joan Martin of the US Green Building Council (USGBC); he was given her card with contact information for Pam Jackson (312) 245-8300 ext. 204. He was told she could answer questions relating to promoting LEED, and municipal ordinances for LEED. Their website is www.usgbc-illinois.org.

The subject of the future park district recreational center was brought up. Members plan to suggest to the district that they have the new facility LEED certified. It is not clear yet what the current plans for the facility are, if they are considering LEED, or how to go about formally making the recommendation.

Dan said our focus should be to look for sample ordinances from other communities to support the commission's recommendation for implementing a LEED ordinance in West Chicago. The discussions lead to other green construction applications such as permeable paver streets and parking lots.

Nick said he was willing to contact Pam Jackson, from the USGBC about LEED. It was decided to ask Steve Carrow at the January 2013 meeting to follow up with her.

Dan plans to review and discuss each of the items/goals on the current list and to set priorities and completion dates for each at the next meeting.

B. New Additions

Nick mentioned Warrenville's environmental movie program and discussed doing something similar and/or presenting educational talks to the community, perhaps at the library like Warrenville. Bob mentioned that putting on movies for the public has added cost and permissions are required. Nick said he could present a talk on ecology at no cost

Environmental Commission Meeting

December 19, 2012

Page 2 of 3

and also share information about the Forest Preserve's \$10 million grant funded Mega-Project that he will be involved in. This could also be an opportunity to educate people about LEED.

4. Other Business

The naming of a new secretary for the commission was discussed. If there were no volunteers, drawing straws was suggested as well as rotating the duty every six months or some other agreed upon frequency. Plans were made to discuss this at the next meeting in January.

John Symowicz informed the group that he had an energy audit completed on his home. He recapped the audit and energy improvement work done to his home. He and Mike Ferguson compared their experiences. Both were very satisfied with the whole process and results. Mike was informed by the auditor that the cap plate between the foundation and the house structure was one of the main areas of energy loss in a home. Bob added that it is probably were mice are able to get into a house.

The rebate program is expected to last only until March of 2013. Nick said he was able to pass information about the program internally to the Forest Preserve (approximately 400 people). Dan said information was provided to Rosemary but it was not clear if there was a press release about it.

A budget for the commission was discussed. Tim will ask the Director of Public Works how to present the request for City approval.

The next meeting will be as scheduled on January 16, 2012.

5. Adjournment

At 8:27 P.M. Bob Blaus made a motion to adjourn seconded by Nick Fuller. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy R. Wilcox
Street Superintendent