

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 7/21/21

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

May 19, 2021, 7:00 P.M.

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

Chairman Beebe called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. Roll call found Commissioners Dan Beebe, Bob Blaus, Bethany Brown, Kris Zimmermann, and Joe Cavataio present via Zoom internet connection.

Staff present in person included Assistant Director of Public Works, Tim Wilcox.

Chairman Beebe read the following statement: "Mayor Pineda has determined that in-person meetings are not practical and prudent".

2. Approval of Minutes.

- A. Commissioner Beebe tabled the Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2021 until the next Environmental Commission Meeting.

3. Public Participation/Presentations.

None.

4. Items For Consent

None

5. Review and discuss Commission Priority List.

A. Review current priority list

Paper shredding Event

The event currently scheduled for June 5, 2021 was the main topic of discussion. The Union Pacific Railroad granted approval to hold the event at the METRA station parking lot. The move was due to the record turnout of people and the traffic backups it caused on Main Street and Neltor Boulevard (Illinois Route 59) last year. Mr. Wilcox explained the traffic plan and layout and provided scheduled times Street Division personnel, Police, and the shredding trucks would be on site. Mr. Wilcox and the Commissioners discussed the details of the event. Commissioner Cavataio indicated he would not be able to attend the event.

Adopt A Highway

The spring roadside pickup event was held April 17, 2021.

B. Discuss new additions to priority list

None.

6. Other Business

Commissioner Cavataio discussed a request from Rosemary Mackey, Marketing and Communications Coordinator for the City. Rosemary asked the Environmental Commission members if they would be willing to provide her with articles, which could also be seasonal, related to the environment that she could use in official City news releases and newsletters. Commissioner Cavataio is interested in providing articles to her and has his own ideas for topics but would like consensus from all Commission members for the articles submitted. He also asked the members to provide him with ideas and subjects for articles they might like to see.

There was also discussion about the Tree Planting Initiative. The Morton Arboretum contacted Mr. Wilcox directly and provided him with information about the initiative. The City planted a Redbud Tree next to the Community Center near the bike path as part of the initiative. Members also discussed the benefits of diversifying tree planting, native tree planting, and the possibility of getting more involved with tree planting in West Chicago. The Tree City USA program was also discussed.

The weed ordinance for West Chicago was also discussed, and the implications it may have on pollinators.

7. Adjournment

At 7:42 P.M. Commissioner Zimmermann made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cavataio seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Wilcox, Assistant Director of Public Works