

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 9/15/21

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

August 18, 2021, 7:00 P.M.

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

Chairman Beebe called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. Roll call found Commissioners Dan Beebe, Bob Blaus, and Kris Zimmermann present. Bethany Brown and Joe Cavataio were absent.

Also present was West Chicago resident Liuan Huska; staff present included Assistant Director of Public Works, Tim Wilcox.

2. Approval of Minutes.

- A. **Environmental Commission Minutes of July 21, 2021. Commissioner Blaus made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Zimmermann to approve the meeting minutes of July 21, 2021.**

Voting Yea: Commissioner Beebe, Blaus, and Zimmermann.

Voting Nay: zero.

3. Public Participation/Presentations.

Ms. Huska introduced herself, and shared some things important to her and what she is involved in, including organizing a trash pickup event and that she is a freelance writer. She is interested in possibly applying to become a member of the Environmental Commission and is attended the meeting to get a better understand of what the Commission does.

4. Items For Consent

None

5. Review and discuss Commission Priority List.

A. Review current priority list

The Commissioners provided Ms. Huska a summary of past and present priorities including LEED, Dark Skies, Mayors Monarch Pledge, Annual Paper Shredding Event, Adopt a Highway, and others.

Members discussed holiday light recycling and pumpkin recycling. Dates were determined (November 26 – January 21 for holiday light recycling, and November 6 for the pumpkin recycling). The events will be advertised in the next City newsletter.

B. Discuss new additions to priority list

None.

6. Other Business

Commissioner Beebe explained how the Environmental Commission in West Chicago formed many years ago, how it again formed in 2007, and its role as advisor to City Council.

A Facebook page called “What’s happening in West Chicago” was mentioned. One of the topics of discussion is the possibility to revise the City weed Ordinance in some way to help pollinators survive better throughout the year.

Commissioner Beebe talked about West Chicago’s Environmental Stewardship Page and request from Rosemary Mackey, Marketing and Communications Coordinator for the City to provide her with articles related to the environment for use in official City news releases and newsletters. Commissioner Zimmermann thought it could be a good place to provide information to residents about where to take materials that are not easily recyclable and should not be thrown in the trash, as well as a good place to providing information about pollinators. Ms. Huska said she would be able to help write articles.

Other items discussed included prescription medication disposal, a Walgreen store in Winfield now takes them, Adopt a Trail cleanup, the recent storm damage on the south side of town, and solar panels becoming more prevalent in West Chicago.

Commissioner Blaus said the Winfield Township is again hosting a recycling extravaganza on Saturday September 25, 2021 from 9 A.M. to Noon.

7. Adjournment

At 8:00 P.M., Commissioner Blaus 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