

CITY OF
WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 10/15/23

MEETING MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

September 20, 2023, 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order Establish a Quorum
 - a. *Staff Liaison, Dave Shah, called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. Roll call found Commissioners Bob Blaus, Bethany Brown, Thomas Cherrington, Nazree Williams, present.*
 - b. *Staff present included Assistant Director of Public Works, Dave Shah.*
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Environmental Commission Minutes of June 21, 2023
 - i. *Commissioner Cherrington made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Williams, to approve the Meeting Minutes.*
 1. *Voting Yea: Commissioner Blaus and Brown*
 2. *Voting Nay: None*
3. Public Participation/Presentations
 - a. *None*
4. Items for Consent
 - a. *None*
5. Review and Discuss the Commission Priority List
 - a. Current List
 - i. *September 30, 2023 – Commission’s Adopt-A-Highway Event*
 - ii. *November 14, 2023 – Pumpkin Composting*
 1. *Discussion: The Commission was interested in advertising the event on various City platforms, including residents being able to print out a small flyer from the City website to hand out during trick-or-treating event starting in FY 2024. Shah will share the event Flyer with the commission and the Church.*
 - iii. *November 24, 2023, to January 19, 2023 – Holiday Lights Recycling Event*
 1. *Discussion: Shah will coordinate with Groot and Public Works Department for recycling bin drop-offs at various sites throughout the City. The collected lights will be dropped off at the SCARCE facility in Addison, IL.*

- b. New Additions
 - i. None
6. Other Business
- a. Chair and Co-Chair Selection Process
 - i. *Discussion: Shah further explained the Chair and Co-Chair process. Per the Code of Ordinance Section 2-268 Chairman Selection, the Mayor annually appoints a member of the Commission as a Chair. The boards and commissions shall select among themselves a secretary, Co-Chair, or other positions mentioned. In addition, there are seven seats on the commission, and for a quorum to be established, a minimum of four members shall be in attendance for a public meeting.*
 - b. Groot Waste Contract Issues
 - i. Vacation Hold
 - ii. Food Composting
 - iii. *Discussion: The Commission was interested in conducting research on food composting services that can be incorporated in the waste disposal contract during the renewal process in FY 2024. In addition, Commissioner Blaus raised concern about the Vacation Hold policy for waste disposal since the minimum time to hold is one month, which does not benefit a lot of residents. The commission was also interested in revisiting this issue during the disposal contract renewal process in FY 2024.*
 - c. *Discussion: The Commission was interested in providing educational material to the community on green infrastructure and sustainability. Shah will re-share the cloud link to the Commission so an article on such topics can be created through member collaboration. Furthermore, the Commission was interested in creating an open house and various learning opportunities for residents at no cost, which could include guest speakers, movie nights, etc.*
7. Adjournment
- a. *At 8:14 P.M., Commissioner Brown made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cherrington seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Respectfully,

Dave Shah, PE
Assistant Director of Public Works