



31 West Quincy Street • Westmont, Illinois 60559
Tel: 630-981-6200

Meeting - Environmental Improvement Commission

May 18, 2015, 6:00 PM

Westmont Village Hall - Second Floor

31 W. Quincy Street, Westmont, Illinois 60559

MINUTES – FINAL

1. Call To Order – Bob Van Hyfte called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.
2. Roll Call - In attendance: Mary McAuliffe, Glenn Gabryel (arrived at 6:15), Mary Gabryel, Tyler Tieche, Jon Sopcak, Bob Van Hyfte and Pam Ristau Absent: Kim Lombardozzi and Aaron Spencer Staff in attendance: Larry McIntyre
3. Pledge of Allegiance - Led by Bob Va Hyfte
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes - **Motion: A motion was made by Pam Ristau to approve the meeting minutes from the April 6, 2015 meeting. The motion was second by Jon Sopack and unanimously approved by voice vote. (Glenn Gabryel not in attendance at the time of the vote)**

5. Reports / Updates

- a. 2015 Earth Month Updates-

- i. Tree seedlings were all distributed on April 22nd at the Westmont Library and April 23rd at Miller School
 - ii. Westmont Library held presentations on energy savings (May 2) and water conservation (May 16). Erin Kennedy from Scare made both presentations.
 - iii. On May 9th at the Westmont Police station a paper shredding event was held to support the Special Olympics which raised approximately \$900 and the village hosted fluorescent bulb recycling. Mary Gabryel, Tyler Tieche and Mary McAuliffe supported event. Approximately 20 individuals dropped off about 100 four foot fluorescent bulbs and 40 CFLs.

Action Items:

- **For the next fluorescent bulb recycling a box cutter and packing tape should be available for the volunteers to set up the boxes used to contain the bulbs.**
- **Suggest next year to target senior citizens for Earth Month Events**

- b. EIC Presence at Community Events Update

- The commission agreed with attendance at 2 street fairs and Taste of Westmont

- June 4 street fair will host Kay McKeen from Scarce with an exhibit and information on vermicomposting aka worm composting. Pam Ristau is taking the lead with support from Tyler Tiche
- July 10-12 Taste of Westmont
 - o The EIC will focus on the rain barrel, water conservation and vermicomposting
 - o Looking for volunteers for the supply information at the village tent during the event
 - Friday 4 – 7:30 Mary McAuliffe
 - Friday 7:30 – 10:30 Tyler Tiche
 - Saturday 12 – 3:30 Jon Sopcak
 - Saturday 3:30 – 7 Pam Ristau
 - Saturday 7 – 10:30
 - Sunday 12 – 3
 - Sunday 3 – 6
 - Sunday 6 – 9
 - o **Action Items:**
 - **Need to find volunteers for vacant slots noted above**
 - **Larry McIntrye and Kim Lombardozzi will create a handout / brochure highlighting EIC activities and events**
 - **Larry McIntrye to contact Mike Ramsey about the costume to wear at the event and hand outs including shower gauge.**
 - **Larry McIntrye to obtain signage to advertise rain barrel. The signage should indicate the cost includes installation.**
 - o August 13 Street Fair will include a paper shredding and EIC presence.
 - **Action Items:**
 - **Need to select topic**
 - **Need a EIC volunteer to take the lead for this event**

c. 2015 Goals and Budget

- EIC budget approved for \$2,750. If Westmont does not get funds from the state the EIC budget will only be \$500. EIC should get a budget update in July.
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d. New Climate Action Plan

- Larry McIntyre to plan a meeting with the village manager, Steve May, Glenn Gabryel, Bob Van Hyfte, Tyler Tiche and Mary McAuliffe,
- Mary McAuliffe brought to the EIC attention a recent "My Suburban Life" article regarding DuPage County's invitation to residents, businesses and government agencies to join the "Cool DuPage" effort to reduce energy consumption by helping DuPage County reduce greenhouse gases through big and small changes. DuPage County's plan is available at <https://www.dupageco.org/CoolDuPage/>
- **Action Item:**
 - o **Mary McAuliffe will contact the County "Cool DuPage" representatives to explore an EIC Climate Action Plan partnership or other coordination with DuPage County's efforts.**

e. Guest Speakers Schedule

The commission updated the schedule to the following for 30 minute presentations.

- August 18, 2015
 - o Scarce (topic TBD) (Larry McIntyre)
- September 14 2015
 - o Beekeeping and related village guidelines (Larry McIntyre)
 - o Genetically modified foods and potential health concerns (Pam Ristau)
- October 5, 2015
 - o Morton Arboretum (Glenn Gabryel)
 - o Willowbrook Wildlife Center (Larry McIntyre)

Action Item:

- **Individuals noted above need to coordinate speakers.**

Larry McIntyre will need to coordinate with the village IT department to tape presentations.

f. Tree Seedling Giveaway Update / Sign Up Form information

- The 2015 form to request seedlings asked if individuals wanted to receive environmental information. Approximately 15 individuals expressed and interest and provided email addresses.
- 2016 is the 20th anniversary for Tree City USA. Jon Yeater, the village

forester would like to highlight this achievement.

- **Actions Items:**

- **Larry McIntrye to provide Mary Gabryel with the list of residents interested in receiving environmental information**
- **Ask Jon Yeater to attend a future meeting to discuss how to jointly promote Tree City USA anniversary**

a) New Business

- a. Review County Proposal Regarding Mosquito Abatement. Glenn Gabryel volunteered to reach out to the county and report back to the EIC
- b. Glenn Gabryel noted mentioned an article about 50% contamination of recyclable materials. Some communities are now paying to recycle materials versus making a profit from the sale of materials. Glenn will contact Waste Management to find out how Westmont ranks.

6. Misc. / Action Plans

Mary Gabryel brought up setting up a pumpkin composting option for this fall. Mary will contact The Smits' Family Farm located at 63rd and Cass. Tyler Tiche also brought up contacting Clover Garden (Ogden Avenue). Clover Garden Center on Ogden.

Pam Ristau brought to the attention of the EIC a meeting hosted by Lou Malnati's and Lisle to local businesses about recycling and food composting.

Action Item:

- **Pam Ristau will investigate this further to see if any benefit to the Westmont Chamber of Commerce.**
- **Bob Van Hyfte and Pam Ristau will create about a dozen green business tips that can be presented for inclusion in the Westmont Chamber newsletter.**

Due the delay of the May meeting it was agreed that the scheduled meeting for June 1 would not be necessary.



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7. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Mary Gabryel and second by Jon Sopcak and unanimously approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.