

Meeting - Environmental Improvement Commission

February 10, 2014, 6:00 PM

Westmont Village Hall - Second Floor

31 W. Quincy Street, Westmont, Illinois 60559

Minutes – Final

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call:

Present:

M. Gabryel P

J. Sopak P

G. Gabryel P

A. Spencer P

K. Lombardozi P

T. Tieche P

M. McAuliffe P

R. Van Hyfte P

P. Ristau A

Staff:

L. McIntyre P

J. Yeater P

VOTING KEY: A=ABSENT AB=ABSTAIN N=NO W=Withdrawn

P=PRESENT Y=YES V=VACATION

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Introductions

5. Purpose of Commission / Defining Mission Statement and Goals / Roles / Terms

- o Roles Chairman TBD

Secretary - M. Gabryel volunteered

- o Terms of commissioners will range 2 or 3 years
- o Defining mission statement and goals will be a work in process

6. Proposed Meeting Schedule - 6 Times a Year - Various Mondays at 6 p.m. -

Feb. 10, April 7, June 2, Aug. 4, Sept. 8, Nov. 3

- Dates discussed by commission members with 2 revisions to change June 2 to June 9 and August 4th to August 11th
- Motion #1: Meetings for 2014 to be held on February 10, June 9, August 11, September 8 and November 3.
- Motion was seconded by K. Lombardozzi
 - Vote: Ayes: M. Gabryel, G. Gabryel, K. Lombardozzi, M. McAuliffe, J. Sopak, A. Spencer, R. Van Hyfte
 - Nays: None.
 - Absent: T. Tiehe, P. Ristau

7. Review 2010 Climate Action Plan

- G. Gabryel provided a preliminary update on the village's progress on the Climate Action Plan.
- **Action Item:** G. Gabryel and L. McIntyre to follow up with the village manager for an update and report at the next meeting.
- J. Yeater provided an update on the forestry program as it relates to emerald ash borer infestation, tree removal and tree plantings for 2014. Jon indicated approximately 500 trees are scheduled for removal and anticipate planting 200+ trees. Village tree planting will take place in mid May and October. Resident cost share program on tree planting is in place and residents need to submit requests in by March 31st for spring planting.
- The commission members indicated the village should cross promote environmental related programs such as electronics recycling, tree cost sharing program and the rain barrel program.
- **Action Item:** Suggest issuing a press release around Earth Day April 22nd and Arbor day April 25th to promote environmental efforts and tree programs.
- **Action Item:** G. Gabryel and L. McIntyre to reach out about grants and options for a recycling program for hazardous waste and special collection.
- **Action Item:** L. McIntyre to follow up on business waste program.
- L. McIntyre noted a village brochure in progress with Waste Management about waste collection programs

8. "Green" Business Recognition Program & Community Recycling Promotion

- K. Lombardozzi spoke about the IL Green Business Program. Business can get

certified and use this as part of the promotions and advertising.

- **Action Item:** K. Lombardozzi to obtain information about the business certification process to the commission.
- **Action Item:** Larry to follow up with the Chamber of Commerce if they would be interested in a presentation about the IL Green Business Program. Start with presentation to Chamber to determine community interest.
- Discussion included inquiry on recycling programs in place in multi-family units as the village residents include approximately 50% living in multi-family units.

9. Organic Waste Collection

- K. Lombardozzi provided an overview of Oak Park's food scrap and landscape waste combined program. The commission expressed an interest to get more information and potential guest speaker at a future meeting.
- **Action Item:** Obtain a guest speaker for a future meeting.
- The commission would like a report on the current status of the volume of household waste, landscape waste and recycling generated by single family homes.
- **Action Item:** L. McIntyre to obtain an update report from Waste Management of the village management.

10. 2014 Electronics Recycling Program

- May to December on 2nd Friday of the month. Location moving to the parking lot in front of village hall
- Most common questions at the recycling event is if batteries and light bulbs taken.
- Recommend a press release planned for March with daylight savings time on safe battery disposal
- **Action Item:** L. McIntyre to research if batteries and light bulbs can be taken or provide a list of local disposal locations that can be provided to the staff working the electronics program.

11. "Green" Information on Village Website

- Inquiry was made as to what information should be on the website.
- **Action Item:** Present ideas at the next meeting
- Inquiry was made if a list of participants in the rain barrel program could be

provided if it did not violate privacy issues. The commission may wish to target this group of residents for future pilot programs or environmental programs.

- **Action Item:** L. McIntyre to obtain a list to residents who purchased rain barrels.

12. Rainwater Barrel Program

- The commission discussed the 2013 rain barrel program and continuation of the program for 2014.
- Motion #2: Recommend to the village management to provide a spring sale of rain barrels at the same discounted rate as fall 2013..
- Motion was seconded by K. Lombardozzi
- **Vote:** Ayes: M. Gabryel, G. Gabriel, K. Lombardozzi, M. McAuliffe, J. Sopak, A. Spencer, R. Van Hyfte
- Nays: None.
- Absent: M. McAuliffe, P. Ristau

13. Stormwater Management Initiatives

- G. Gabryel and L. McIntyre provided an overview of stormwater committee initiatives including plans to research and possible test permeable paving options in the village.

14. EIC "Green" Brainstorming Session / Schedule for 2014

- Multi-Family recycling. Commission inquired current options available to residents of these buildings and how to get greater recycling participation.
- Action Item: L. McIntyre to research what ordinance on the village books for multi family recycling
- Discussion on the current recycling efforts within the village various departments
- Motion #3 Recommend the village conduct a waste characterization study of municipal government.
- Motion was seconded by K. Lombardozzi
- Vote: Ayes: M. Gabryel, G. Gabriel, K. Lombardozzi, M. McAuliffe, J. Sopak, A. Spencer, R. Van Hyfte
- Nays: None.
- Absent: M. McAuliffe, P. Ristau

- Awareness campaign to eliminate/reduce water bottles.
- Naturalization of retention areas. Reduce mowing
- Village garden in the open areas Twin Lakes and Wilderness Park
- Twin lake woods cleanup - volunteer collaboration with Westmont First
- Village plant sale or exchange
- Promote planting in front of business in the tree squares
- Wildlife in the yards such as chicken and honeybees. Would need to determine what village ordinances in place
- Roof top gardens
- Reduction of road salt - heavier levels in local streams and rivers

15. Misc. - Clarke Mosquito Guest Speaker/ DuPage River Sweep Liaison / Climate Action Plan Liaison / Action Plans

- Discussion delayed to future meeting

16. Adjourn

Next Meeting Agenda Items

1. Battery and Light bulbs recycling - Notify residents how to handle these items
2. Select dates for future presentations and speakers - Organic Waste/Oak Park Program