



Village of Antioch - Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2011,

1. Call to Order: The Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Babicz at 6:35 pm in the Board Room at Antioch Village Hall: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL.

Present : Chairman Babicz, Members Peter Grant, Glenn Semple, Melonnie Hartl, Meredith Schnelle, Casey Furlong arrived at 6:38, Cynthia Stepanek arrived at 6:52 . Guests present: Village Trustee Scott Pierce, Deputy Clerk Lori Folbrick, Dustin Nilsen
Absent: Brent Bluthardt

2. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the meeting from June, 27, 2011 by Glenn, 2nd by Peter. Voice vote – all aye.

3. Old Business:

- a. New Member - Meredith Schnelle was officially sworn in by Deputy Clerk Lori Folbrick.
- b. Committee Assignments Chairman Babicz suggested that we readdress the committee assignments. Discussion followed. The new committees are:

- i. **Alternative Energy** (water, wind, etc. energy sources, energy audit) – Glenn, Peter alternate: vacant
- ii. **Conservation** (*recycling, water quality, environmental protection*) – Peter, Meredith alternate: Casey
- iii. **Education** (*initiatives in the community, workshops, school programs, Earth Day*) – Melonnie, Cynthia alternate: Meredith
- iv. **Green Building** (*construction related projects, LEED certification*) – Brent, Casey alternate: Cynthia

Motion to accept the committees as restructured was made by Peter. 2nd by Casey. All aye

- c. Energy Efficiency Audit – Glenn and Peter have been working on the audit. Glenn gave a report about Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC). This application from the University of Illinois is a simpler process with a one page application to describe a project. The review process takes several months. If approved auditors would come out to do a review on the electricity and/or gas usage and put together a report. Project considerations are the newly rebuilt waste treatment plant, the pump houses, the police department, and the swimming pool complex. Trustee Pierce will contact Jim Keim to determine the base usage. Glenn will contact SEDAC to see if multiple buildings can be lumped together for one audit. Ann Campbell is the contact.

d. Antioch Community Garden Update -

- i. Thanks to Glenn, Baxter has donated half a skid of bagged composted manure. It has been picked up from Ace Hardware in Antioch and is being taken to the garden for the gardeners to use.
 - ii. Randy from Impressions Count donated two large banners for the garden. They have been placed on the north and west sides of the fence and look great.
 - iii. The press release from the Daily Herald was shared. Another article will appear in the Lake County Journal on Thursday.
 - iv. Meredith planted 17 native plants from her own garden to put into the swale to help stop erosion. This area can also be used for a demonstration garden for schools etc.
 - v. Formal thank you letters to the Village and all donors will be drafted by Melonnie.
 - vi. Seaweed issue discussed. Cynthia mentioned that she had talked to people on Loon Lake and they mistakenly thought they could dump seaweed in the garden area. It was removed immediately.
 - vii. Securing the entrance – to prevent anyone from driving into the garden, Dustin stated that it would be fine to secure it in some way. At the present time, a utility barricade has been placed there, but straw bales may be a better option. Melonnie will look into obtaining some.
 - viii. CLC Forum in September was mentioned. Melonnie will provide more information as it is received.
- e. EcoFair 360 Report – Cynthia reported that her presentation that was scheduled to be given on Friday was unexpectedly moved to Sunday and she was unable to stay to give the presentation. There were many workshops, lectures, and eco-friendly items such as art and furniture. This was only the second year for the event and attendance was fair. This year, we were not charged a fee for the booth. It was decided that we would consider having a booth again next year because it is a good networking opportunity, but only if there isn't a fee and only if we have a guaranteed presentation time.

4. New Business:

- a. Bee keepers – O'Hare convicts that do bee keeping was brought up. This may be a possible project in the future.
- b. Casey brought up questions about Swalco rates or ratio-recyclables. Casey will check into the recycling rate in Antioch. Meredith inquired about the method Swalco uses to determine how a village gets chosen to be a recycling site for special wastes, household chemical wastes, electronics, etc. The conservation committee will check into this and report back.

5. Motion to Adjourn: Glenn. 2nd by Meredith. All aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Next Meeting – Monday, August 22 , 2011 at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Secretary Melonnie Hartl