



Village of Antioch - Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2011,

1. Call to Order: The Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Babicz at 6:33 pm in the Mayoral Conference Room at Antioch Village Hall: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL.

Present : Chairman Babicz, Members Peter Grant, Melonnie Hartl, Glenn Semple, Meredith Schnelle.

Guests present: Village Trustee Scott Pierce arrived at 6:37 pm

Absent: Brent Bluthardt, Casey Furlong, Cynthia Stepanek,

2. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the meeting from September, 26, 2011 by Glenn, 2nd by Peter . Voice vote – all aye.

3. Committee Reports

- a. ***Alternative Energy***

~ Glenn reported on the World Energy Engineering Congress. All info for this is on a disk and can be viewed. Glenn has identified about a dozen sessions that may be of interest to us.

~Natural Gas Conversions – Peter talked to a couple of companies. There are grants that may offset the cost. Perhaps just converting a vehicle or two for a pilot program would be a good place to start. A station is not necessary until more vehicles are converted.

~Wind power – Meredith discussed turbines for individual houses. Glenn suggested it would be nice if businesses that came to the area could have that option as well. Mike reported that students from Prairie Crossing Charter School in Grayslake received a grant to construct a wind turbine in their community.

- b. ***Conservation***

SWALCO update – Mike spoke to Walter Willis the head of SWALCO, who stated that Antioch is the only Village that does not attend the SWALCO meetings. Perhaps if village personnel cannot make it, someone from our committee could attend. Walter will be presenting next month at our meeting. Scott will inform the trustees so they may attend if possible. Mr. Willis is looking for organizations like ours to help educate the public with the information from his report. If there are specific questions, they should be forwarded to Mel to put a list together prior to the meeting.

- c. ***Education***

~Mel reported that gleaning has continued and over 300 lbs of fresh vegetables have been donated to Open Arms.

~Mel had discussed having several raised plots with Jim Keim and Mayor Hanson and they gave their approval. There are no zoning issues with raising the plots. She also discussed the issue of giving existing gardeners the option to keep their plots the next year. They were in favor of this. A motion was made by Peter to make Feb. 1st the deadline for accepting registration for village residents. 2nd by Meredith. Voice vote – all aye. After that date, any plots remaining will be offered to township residents.

Mel will contact Candi to put something into the newsletter and also on the website.

The committee will work on creating a mission statement for the garden as well as updating the community garden agreement.

d. ***Green Building***

No report.

4. Old Business:

Earth Day Event – Saturday, April 21st. An idea was to have SWALCO events such as recycling of electronics, household chemical wastes, prescription drugs, etc. We will know more after our next meeting with Mr. Willis. Mel will contact AES to use their gym as an alternative site in case of rain. Mike will contact Shawn to discuss plans.

New Business:

The aggregation of electricity topic was brought up by Mike and Trustee Pierce. It must be put out in the form of a referendum to find an alternate source of electricity. We will wait for direction from the village board to help them with their decision. An article about this was in the News Sun today. Only four communities are doing this now in IL. Grayslake is the only one in Lake County. They may save over \$2 million. Peter will contact Village of Grayslake to find out more information.

Meeting in Dec. – Mike suggested that we think about if a meeting is needed.

Motion to Adjourn: Meredith. 2nd by Peter. All aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Next Meeting – Monday, November 28, 2011 at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Secretary Melonnie Hartl