



Village of Antioch - Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2011

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

Present – Those present were: Chairman Babicz, Members Melonnie Hartl, Glenn Semple, Cynthia Stepanek. Christina Landgren arrived at 6:37 – left at 6:56. Guests present: Dara Reiff
Absent: Casey Furlong, Peter Grant, Brent Bluthardt

2. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the meeting on Nov. 22, 2010 by Melonnie, 2nd by Cynthia. Voice vote – all aye.
3. Guest Dara Reiff - Sustainability Coordinator from CLC. After introductions were made, Dara presented information about her position and department at CLC.
 - a. IGEN – Illinois Green Economy Network is a collaboration between community colleges throughout the state. IGEN's objective is for each college to have a Sustainability and Green Economy Center to enable activities such as community colleges working together to train and retrain the workforce for sustainable living. The centers would also be a way to share resources and new programs. B226 is where the Green Resource Office is located at CLC. For more information: <http://www.igence.org/>
 - b. Dara is interested in ways she can help businesses, schools, municipalities, etc. The sustainability center is interested in greening the campus, the curriculum and the community.
 - c. The CLC curriculum offers classes and certificate programs for green building or alternative technologies.
 - d. Outreach programs are in place working with many agencies to offer workshops and share resources. The Community Partners for Sustainability has been formed. This group has grown to over 150 members, but sustainability issues vary greatly with its members.
 - e. Lake County's Sustainability Plan as well as other materials in their center were presented. Other communities that have EC's are Highland Park, Vernon Hills, Lindenhurst.
 - f. Other green groups have been formed such as Lake County Green Congregations and the Lake County Green Team.
 - g. May – 18 or 19. Local Lake County Green area conference will be held. More details to come.
 - h. LEED for neighborhoods is in progress. It will provide steps to take to get communities started and involved in and give ideas for best practices. Highland Park recently came out with their sustainability plan. Dara will send us their case study.
 - i. CLC recycling program. Done through the facilities department. They have developed contracts with waste companies to weigh their wastes each month.
 - j. RecycleMania is a competition with other colleges that record the lowest total waste per capita.

- k. Food recycling/composting. Dara is working with the Horticulture department to bring this about. In small quantities, composted food can be used on the CLC site. Local organic farmers or landscaping companies may take or buy this waste to use. LCFP is open to the idea of using a portion of land for organic gardening, etc. Prairie Crossing has a community farm incubator area. Temple Farms is beginning to get into community organic farming. Pre-consumer compost or food prep waste to go into compost, not postconsumer where there could be more contamination. The idea is to contact restaurants to collect their food wastes. If enough will participate, a “route” can be created so that Waste Management will provide the pick-up service. Area residents and landscapers would possibly be interested in using the compost afterward.
- l. An idea was suggested to start a community garden in Antioch – then share the harvest with Open Arms for the people that need it.
- m. www.lakecountyil.gov – has publication about going green and strategy for a sustainable Lake County 2009.

4. Old Business:

- a. Still looking for another member for the EC. Recommendations for potential candidates are needed.
- b. Shawn Lahr, from the Lindenhurst EC has been contacted by Casey. He will attend our Feb. meeting to share their vision, etc. We cannot do anything about ordinances. The village trustees would be the ones to attend a meeting of this type. This also applies to grants.
- c. Recycling kits for light bulbs. Melonnie will contact Jim Parks about the kits.

5. New Business:

- a. Cynthia attended the North Mill Creek/Dutch Gap Canal Watershed meeting. Farmers in the area trying to get funds from the federal government to keep their land preserved and not let developers in. Open Lands was there and shared how they attained money for their projects. www.lakecountyil.gov/Lake County Watersheds /NorthMill.htm
- b. Mayor Hansen stopped by and reported that he is working to replace street lighting with LED lighting. He is obtaining information from a Lake Geneva company. More to come. The state provides rebates for switching to more sustainable lighting.
- c. Cynthia reported that there is a Green Jobs websites.
- d. Wild Things Conference – March 5, 2011 at UIC. Any EC member that attends should keep receipts and submit them to the village for reimbursement. Melonnie is already registered.

The next meeting will be February 28, 2011 at 6:30 pm.

- 6. Motion to Adjourn: A motion was made by Glenn. 2nd by Cynthia. Voice vote - all aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Submitted by Melonnie Hartl