



Village of Antioch - Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2012

1. Call to Order: The Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Babicz at 6:32 pm in the Board Room at Antioch Village Hall: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL.

Present : Chairman Mike Babicz, Members Casey Furlong, Glenn Semple, Peter Grant, Scott Frillman, Melonnie Hartl, Trustee Scott Pierce

Absent: Meredith Schnelle, Brent Bluthardt, Cynthia Stepanek arrived at 6:39

2. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the meeting from March 26, 2012 by Peter, 2nd by Scott. Voice vote – all aye.
3. Committee Reports

- a. ***Alternative Energy***

Glenn – LEED guidelines for existing structures and new construction. There was discussion about suggesting that the village could create incentives for this by perhaps reducing fees or contributing 3 cents per square foot toward an environmental fund. Many communities already do this type of thing. There are standards that recommend guidelines for meeting LEED requirements. Trustee Pierce stated that the village follows BOCA. Glenn thought that we should work with building & zoning to find out what the village does already. It will take time for an ordinance to be proposed. Glenn will put together a document with what other communities are doing and communicate these considerations to the board and then to the village. Glenn will try to sit in on one of their meetings to see what their focus is on LEED standards.

Peter talked with Andrew Paterello from Alternate Renewable Energy at the Ecofair. They will perform a free assessment on a building in the village for us. Trustee Pierce suggested one of the buildings in the village that has a flat roof such as Public Works.

- b. ***Conservation***

No report.

- c. ***Education***

Mel gave an update on the community garden. Due to the increase interest, more plots will be added. There will be 48 plots available this year. 39 of the plots are already filled. Several more truckloads of reclaimed soil are to be delivered from the Fox Waterway Agency to finish preparing the garden plots and fill the raised plots.

No response received yet from the letter requesting assistance for materials needed for the garden that was sent to the Rotary Club.

The four plots that will be raised this year to accommodate gardeners with physical limitations have been started, but we will seek help from Public Works to complete this project.

Motion by Peter, 2nd by Cynthia to approve construction of the raised plots. All aye.

Motion by Melonnie 2nd by Glenn to submit bills to the village board. All aye

Glenn offered to approach some companies in the area that may be interested in contributing to the cause. Any monetary donation must be made to the village and earmarked for the garden.

~ Cynthia - Surveys from the EcoFair provided lots of suggestions. Cynthia will create a report from the surveys and Trustee Pierce would like a copy given to Candi for the village board.

d. ***Green Building***

Scott – received a response from Pieper Power and would like to do an audit of our wastewater system for free. The email was forwarded to Jim Keim to set up an appointment.

4. Old Business:

Earth Day Event update. Mike thanked the members for their efforts. We would like to encourage students from schools all over the area to participate next year in some way. Perhaps with a poster contest or recycled projects. Plans will be made to expand the event next year. \$31.93 was raised from the bake sale.

5. New Business:

- The Commission is beginning to change from advisory in nature to one generating revenue due to the fees from the community garden. Mike talked to Joy, the village treasurer, about how to proceed with purchasing materials for the garden, attending conferences, etc. We must go through the proper channels for purchasing and have it approved prior to the project from now on. Joy will generate a report for us showing our revenue and expenditures. Any office supplies needed such as stationary or postage can be obtained through the village. Any receipts thus far should be given to Mike to submit to the village for reimbursement.
- County Green – May 17th at CLC. Mel will attend and will be presenting a session about the process we went through to start our community garden and how we manage and maintain it.
- Mike – question from a resident wondering if the village has a tree replacement reimbursement program. Scott P. stated that the village did not have one.
- There was a discussion about members not attending the meetings or participating in events. Other people are interested in being on the commission if anyone steps down. Amanda L.
- The winner of the rain barrel was drawn – Mike Adams - 497 Crest Lane, Antioch. He was contacted and will be presented with the rain barrel at a village board meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: Peter, 2nd by Casey Voice vote - all aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, May 30, 2012 at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Secretary Melonnie Hartl