



Village of Antioch - Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes

June 25, 2012

1. Call to Order: The Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Babicz at 6:38 pm in the Board Room at Antioch Village Hall: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL.

Present : Chairman Mike Babicz, Members Cynthia Stepanek, Peter Grant, Meredith Schnelle, Melonnie Hartl, Casey Furlong arrived at 6:40, Peter arrived at 6:46, Trustee Scott Pierce arrived at 7:03, Scott Frillman arrived at 7:29. Also present was Amanda LeBrun.

Absent: Glenn Semple

Guests: Brian Morrissey, Christopher Morrissey, Nicholas Morrissey from the Lake Villa Boy Scouts, Pack 180, Rob and Cheryl VanDuyse.

Village Clerk Lori Folbrick swore in Amanda LeBrun as a new member of the Environmental Commission. Welcome Amanda!

Chairman Babicz notified the members of the resignation of Glenn Semple. Another open position is now available on the Commission.

2. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the meeting from April 23, 2012 by Meredith, 2nd by Cynthia. Voice vote – all aye.
3. Committee Reports

- a. ***Alternative Energy***

No report.

- b. ***Conservation***

There was discussion to approach waste haulers to possibly work with the village to promote more composting and ways to benefit area businesses.

Scott attended the village meeting – he reported on the lengthy conversation about getting access to Lake Michigan water. Antioch has been approved along with several other communities to receive it. Scott mentioned ideas for ways to conserve water – IDNR recommends conserving by several means, one being an EPA water sense partner. A recommendation will be looked at and created to present to the village. Pros and cons of Lake Michigan water need to be researched further. One advantage: great supply of clean water with less reduced flow problems. Con: cost ~ \$250 million!

There is a need for more educational information about water usage as well.

A motion was made to examine water conservation options for the purpose of public awareness by Scott. Second by Cynthia. All aye.

c. ***Education***

- Mel gave an update on the community garden.
- Antioch Garden Club donation of \$175.00 was presented to Melonnie to go towards material for two compost bins for the Community Garden. According to policy, any funds received will go directly into the village general fund. Trustee Pierce stated that it would be better to receive donations in the form of materials rather than money so it will go directly to the Garden.
- The Antioch Garden Club's Garden Walk will be held August 10th & 11th. The Community Garden will be featured on the walk,
- There was discussion about local restaurants having plots at the Garden then growing and using their produce in their meals. Vegetable waste scraps could come back to the garden to be composted. Some other communities are already providing compost bins for food scraps to residents at no or reduced cost. Research will be done along with the costs to do this. An idea to develop a presentation to introduce this concept to local businesses will be looked into.
- EcoFair survey results: attendees expressed interest in organic foods and the desire for more information to become greener.
- Brief summary of County Green given.

d. ***Green Building***

4. Old Business:

Rain barrel presented to Mike Adams at the last village board meeting. (Jim Keim took pictures)
EcoFair – lots of support to continue with another one for next year.

5. New Business:

- Update meeting with Jim Keim – EC – still will not have any \$\$ or budget. Donations – need to be earmarked for the garden, but it will still be put into the village general fund – not specifically for the garden. It would be better to receive a gift of materials instead.
- Ordinance – the EC is an advisory group for the village board. If we are approached by anyone to provide something for us for free or for a fee, we do not have the authority to schedule an appointment. It must be presented as a proposal or recommendation to the village board.
- Once a quarter, a report should be given at the village board meeting or a summary should be prepared to be read at the meeting.
- Conference support and reimbursement – the village will only cover the cost of the conference, not transportation, food, lodging, etc. It is suggested that opportunities be spread out among the EC members. Information should be presented 2 months in advance for a conference or workshop.

- Florescent bulb recycling – company in Ingleside claims that they are the only ones able to do this in Lake County.
- Large tubes used in businesses/homes – universal waste threshold that if company is so big, they must recycle. But for residents or smaller businesses that have fewer, can something be set up for people to bring them somewhere to recycle. Scott F. will talk to Menards to see if they are interested because they sell them so they may be required to recycle them. If this can happen, a message should be put on the village website.
- Cynthia – Green America – bonds being promoted to increase sustainability / green issues. Shared other information about environmental issues and fundraisers.
- Meredith received a letter thanking her for attending and having a booth at the ACHS Environmental Club. Meredith will be meeting with them to discuss joining forces for an Environmental Event next year.
- Waste Management – Residents can request a bigger recycle bin for free in September!
- Guest Christopher Morrissey suggested that we look at towns that are experiencing water shortages and try to find conservation techniques that work for them.

Motion to Adjourn: Peter, 2nd by Meredith. Voice vote - all aye. Meeting adjourned at 8: 07pm.

Next Meeting – Monday, July 23, 2012 at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Secretary Melonnie Hartl