



Village of Antioch - Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes

November 26, 2012

1. Call 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 : Chairman Mike Babicz, Members Amy Bell, Scott Frillman, Meredith Schnelle, Melonnie Hartl, Cynthia Stepanek arrived at 6:45.

Absent: Amanda LeBrun, Casey Furlong, Peter Grant

2. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the meeting from October 22, 2012 by Melonnie, 2nd by Scott. Voice vote – all aye.
3. Committee Reports

- a. ***Alternative Energy***

No report.

- b. ***Conservation***

Amy – reported that she hasn't heard back from the Walmart executives about putting up the signs in the parking lot. She made and distributed produce bags for each Commission member.

The bag give-away day at Walmart went well, but only 12 free bags were given out. The remainder were given out during the week following. She had a lot of literature to hand out at the table as well.

- c. ***Education***

- Mel gave an update on the community garden. Mel will send Trustee Pierce an update with number of gardens, number of free ones and amount of food donated.
- Compost bin discussion. Compost corral has been assembled. Trustee Pierce will check to see if there is an ordinance about bins, compost etc.
- Mel still needs to pursue a couple of compost bins and talk to Trustee Pierce about the compost tumbler from A. Lubkeman. She will contact Judy Hamilton at AES about reserving the gym for the Earth Day event. Mel reported on the garden get-together.
- Meredith reported that she has received a compost tea brewer that she will donate to the Com Garden. It does need electric so it could not be kept at the garden. Discussion followed. She will contact Trustee Pierce about the brewer.

d. ***Green Building***

Scott will take flyers about electronic recycling / SWALCO from the EcoFair to distribute at the grade school.

No news on the solar panels yet. He will contact Jim Keim about net metering.

He mentioned that the village has a container for old batteries and so does the State Bank.

e. ***Communication***

Meredith reported that the website is not yet ready. A few members still need to get their biographies in.

4. **Old Business:**

Earth Day Event_– members interested will start working on the plans. SWALCO will be contacted and asked about having a recycling event like Waukegan and give the date NOW. Amy will call to get the information.

5. **New Business:** Mike reported that Waukegan had a recycling day that was very successful. He shared an article about the event. They have a dog that is their mascot and helps recycle. Their Lions Club and SWALCO were involved too. They had a SWALCO truck waiting for the recycleables. We may be able to do this in conjunction with our Earth Day event.

Highland Park collected thousands of pounds of plastic foam which is usually not accepted in many recycling events.

Mike shared a Recycle First postcard that was sent to people in the village from SWALCO and several sponsors.

IL State University news had an article about how they received a grant to recycle all food waste from around the campus. They compost it at their farm and then bring it back to the university to use around their grounds.

Amy brought up the fact that there are several restaurants that do not compost. We need to find out the ones that do and try to get others to join in.

Cynthia – Open Arms mission fundraiser – trying to empower people to grow their own food. She will try to work with some people to find land where people would be able to do this.

Nov. 29th - Solarbration.

Dec. 3rd – workshop on Project Readiness by Chicago Loan Fund.

Motion to Adjourn: Meredith. 2nd by Amy Voice vote - all aye. Meeting adjourned at 7: 33 pm.

No Meeting in December.

Next Meeting – Monday, January 28, 2013 at 6:30 pm. (Mike will not be at the Jan. meeting)

Submitted by Secretary Melonnie Hartl