

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved (1/23/2024)

MEETING MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

December 13, 2023, 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order Establish a Quorum
 - a. *Staff Liaison, Dave Shah, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. Roll call found Chairman Nazree Williams, Commissioners Bob Blaus, Thomas Cherrington, and Allen Rodriguez present.*
 - b. *Staff present included Assistant Director of Public Works, Dave Shah.*
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Environmental Commission Minutes of November 15, 2023
 - i. *Commissioner Cherrington made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blaus, to approve the Meeting Minutes.*
 1. *Voting Yea: Commissioner Rodriguez and Williams*
 2. *Voting Nay: None*
3. Public Participation/Presentations
 - a. *None*
4. Items for Consent
 - a. *None*
5. Review and Discuss the Commission Priority List
 - a. Current List
 - i. November 24, 2023, to January 19, 2023 – Holiday Lights Recycling Event
Discussion: Various advertisement avenues were discussed to promote such events.
 - b. New Additions
 - i. *None*
6. Other Business
 - a. November 15, 2023, meeting follow-up
 - i. Waste disposal contract, virtual meetings, Commission budget
Discussion: Shah confirmed that after conducting research, the information and clarification on the three topics mentioned above were shared with the Environmental Commission.
 - b. DuPage County's Environmental Committee tree & shrub bareroot seedling giveaway for 2024 Arbor Day
 - i. All native plants range from 12 to 24 inches and come from the State of IL Nursery.
 - ii. County's goal is to hand out and have it planted by May 1st
 - iii. Chicago Region Trees Initiative
 1. <https://chicagorti.org/app/uploads/2022/09/WestChicagoSummary.pdf>

2. <https://chicagorti.org/maps>
- iv. Is the Commission interested in participating? (Need Motion)
Discussion: The Commission was overall interested in parting with the County's Environmental Committee. However, the Commission wanted to know how strict the May 1st deadline is to plant the seedlings. The Commission wanted to tie this effort in with the City's Blooming Fest which is scheduled for May 18, 2024, if the May 1st deadline is flexible. Shah to follow up with
- c. Various Other Items Discussed
 - i. Shah shared with the Commission that the Mayor appointed Nazree Williams to be the Chairman of the Environmental Commission on December 12, 2023.
 - ii. The Environmental Commission elected a Co-Chairman
 1. Chairman Williams made a motion to elect Commissioner Cherrington to be the Co-Chairman for the Environmental Commission. Commissioner Blaus seconded the motion.
 - a. Voting Yea: Commissioner Rodriguez
 - b. Voting Nay: None
 - iii. The Commission was interested in acquiring business cards.
 - iv. Commissioner Cherrington shared his conversation on the potential partnership between the Club Green at the high school and the Environmental Commission such as volunteering opportunities.
 - v. Commissioner Rodriguez was also interested in partnering with the regional Boy Scouts of America.
 - vi. Resident survey items were discussed.
 - vii. The Commission was interested in collaborating with the City's elected officials on programs and events.
 - viii. Commissioner Blaus wanted to collaborate with SCARCE for innovative ideas on the new waste management contract. Blaus also discussed ideas and issues related to the waste management contract such as the recycling bins being very small, the tipping fee concept, vacation hold, food composting, education, and outreach.
 - ix. Commissioner Blaus made a motion to move the January 17, 2024 Meeting to January 23, 2024. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

7. Adjournment

- a. At 8:35 P.M., Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Blaus seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully,

Dave Shah, PE
Assistant Director of Public Works