

Village of Flossmoor Green Commission

Minutes

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Village Hall Committee Room, 7:00 p.m.

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

II. Roll call

Present: Jennifer O'Keefe, Chair; Commissioners Carrie Malfeo, Tristan Shaw, Tyler Thompson, and Hilary Barker; HFHS Liaison Shallon Malfeo

Absent: Commissioners Brian Goesel, Ernie Ratowitz, Nihat Tasyurek, and Eric Turnquest

Staff: Program and Events Coordinator Laura Brennan-Levy

III. Welcome Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Commission

David Sacks, a Flossmoor resident, came to discuss a proposed power plant in Glenwood. A group of South Suburban residents put together a Facebook group and flyer to inform residents of the proposal, potential effects to the environment, and meeting dates to learn more.

IV. Approval of January 2019 minutes

Chair O'Keefe called for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 19, 2019.

Motion: Commissioner Shaw

Second: Commission Barker

Motion passed by a voice vote.

V. Agenda Items

A. Green Commission Events

Flossmoor Tree Grant - Planting Day – March 23 or April 6

a. Confirm date and time with village and SCA/arboretum

The planting date will be April 6th. Commissioner Shaw will work with Dave Becker to plan logistics for planting and contact SCA for volunteer involvement.

b. Tree Grant Application

The tree grant application is available on the website, and Dave Becker will send out a letter to all qualified residents with information on applying for the cost-share program, and the tree grant program. The deadline is March 18th.

c. Volunteers

The tree grant application solicits home owner volunteers. Laura will post volunteer request if more needed and reach out to Cheryl Vargo at Irons Oaks about the Governor State University student volunteer group.

d. Educational component

Commissioner Shaw will contact Emily at Morton Grove Arboretum about tree education opportunities.

1. HF Community Cleanup – April 6

a. One big event with tree planting?

The HF Area Green Committee cleanup event will be on the same day as the Flossmoor grant tree planting.

b. Volunteers

Laura will work with Public Works and post a cleanup project on the HF Area Green

Committee website. All volunteers will sign waivers, and projects will be directed and supervised by Public Works. If more planting volunteers needed, a separate project will be posted.

2. Recyclepalooza – May 4

a. Publicity

Once collection details confirmed, flyer will be shared in ENews, newsletter, HF Chronicle, and Village Hall.

b. Vendors/volunteers

Commissioner Malfeo is coordinating the event, and reviewed collection items and vendors. The commission discussed additions including batteries, envelopes for the seed library, and pop can tabs. Chair O'Keefe will manage volunteers.

c. Commissioner assignments

Collection list and vendors will be finalized at the next commission meeting.

B. Green Commission Projects

1. Single-Use Plastic/Straws Campaign

HFHS Liaison Shallon Malfeo shared a Single Use Plastic/No Straw campaign rack card for review. Commissioners suggested adding graphics, and the title of "Reduce Use of Single Use Plastic".

2. Residential Bee Keeping Proposal Update

Commissioners Shaw and Thompson are editing proposal to include 1) input on experience of other local communities that allow residential bee keeping, regarding staff resources utilized, and 2) Will County ordinance adjustments to apiary structure guidelines. They will send to Laura to share with commissioners for the next meeting.

3. ComEd Green Region grant application

a. Due March 15th

b. Pollinator Conservation Special Focus

Chair O'Keefe and Commission Thompson met with Cheryl Vargo, Director of Irons Oaks, to discuss the grant opportunity. Irons Oaks has received the grant in the past and would be interested in doing a joint grant request in the future, but no matching funds available this year. Irons Oaks does not have apiaries, since bee keeping is prohibited in Olympia Fields. There is a native bee house built by a volunteer, along with native pollinator plants. Cheryl suggested a grant proposal for native plant – pollinator pockets at identified Village properties.

VI. Reports

A. Village of Flossmoor Staff Report

Several commissioners attended the Prairie State "Growing Sustainable Communities Together" conference, and Mayor Braun reported on the Village of Flossmoor Greenest Region Compact Goals. Commissioners will share conference reports at the next meeting, and Laura will bring the Mayor's report to share. Carrie suggested an annual Green Commission report at a future Board meeting.

B. Commissioner Reports (*Commissioners are invited to share information on local green related topics*)

Commissioner Malfeo will represent the Green Commission and the HF Area Green Committee at Homewood Indoor Farmers Markets to promote upcoming events and programs. The dates are March 30th and April 27th, 8 am – 12 pm, and she could use some volunteers.

Schools - The Western Avenue School Green Team donated plants to classroom growth stations, and a girl scout troop raised money for a water bottle filling station at Parker Junior High School.

Shallon Malfeo – Shallon is graduating in May and will help recruit a student to take her position next year. She will share recommendation with HF Environmental Science teacher.

VII. New Business

No new business.

VIII. Adjournment

Chair O'Keefe called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm.

Motion: Commissioner Shaw Malfeo

Second: Commission Shaw

Motion passed by a voice vote.