

Village of Flossmoor  
GREEN COMMISSION  
MINUTES

FEBRUARY 15, 2022

This Meeting was also made available over zoom

I. Call to Order

*Chairperson Turnquest called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.*

II. Roll Call

*Present: Commissioners Turnquest, O'Keefe, Shaw, Barker, Ratowitz, Owen-Thomas, DeSantis, Klages, Lippert, Student Liaison Hernandez.*

III. Welcome Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Commission

*No citizens present wishing to address the commission.*

IV. Approval of January 2022 minutes

*Minutes approved as amended. Motion: Shaw Second: O'Keefe*

V. Tom Dobrez 60422

*Tom Dobrez, a 50 + year Flossmoor resident shared about the plans for 60422. The group Flossmoor's Future will be contracted by the Village of Flossmoor to manage this event. It will be a once in our lifetime celebration of our zip code. 60422 event will kick off with Bike the Gem. There will be two offerings to the community bike ride. Participants can complete the 13.1-mile race course and some of our youngest riders can complete the 13.1 block course. Following Bike the Gem residents and guests will be steered toward Leavitt Park for the kickoff of the day's festivities. Three tribute bands will perform in Leavitt Park including a Motown tribute, Santana, and Steely Dan band. There will be a large tent in the middle of the event filled with local Flossmoor businesses. Flossmoor restaurants along with a few food trucks will line the park. Tom shared with the commissions that he imagines the event highlighting our three amazing commissions. This is a chance commissions to think outside the box and try something new. Chairman Turnquest asked Tom if the commission should aim to help this event be as close to zero waste as possible. Tom shared that he has run very large-scale festivals in Colorado and has experience with zero waste events. While possible, it takes a large number of volunteers. Commissioner Shaw asked if this would be a chance to highlight his idea surrounding **Plant the Gem**, a program aimed at protecting and rebuilding our tree canopy. Commissioner Shaw also mentioned that Leavitt Park is prone to flooding. He wondered if there was a rain plan and Tom shared that there is a rain plan in place. The commission is excited about the opportunity and will work on a plan for the festival.*

VI. Nancy Burrows Earth Day/ Sculpture Day Event proposal

*Nancy approached the commission to gauge their interest on the idea of the three commissions working together. She shared the Earth Day and International Sculpture Day are*

*within the same week and this might be an opportunity for an event to take place in Leavitt Park. Nancy imagines the three commissions would work with artists to or art students to build a temporary sculpture from recyclable materials. At this time, she doesn't have a name for the event and doesn't want to put a bunch of guidelines around the commissions rather inspire them with the idea. Several questions were raised by the commission*

*-What if the weather is bad?*

*-Do we need a permit from the Park District to host the event?*

*-What happens to the pieces when they are done being displayed?*

*-Materials like glue and paint will render the art piece unavailable for recycling.*

*-Would each commission get the same materials?*

At the end of the conversation Commissioners Owen-Thomas and Ratowitz stepped forward to help Nancy with her project.

## VII. Budget Review

*Stephanie shared that the commission has approximately \$220.00 left in their account. Before she moved forward with purchasing seeds, she did want to share with the commission that she has found some seeds to be donated to the seed library. Stephanie also shared that the new resident event is set to take place at Flossmoor library on April 9<sup>th</sup> and wondered if the commission had interest in handing out their famous glass cleaners*

## VIII. Old Business

- a. Commissioner Owen-Thomas gave an update on her findings from Collective Resource Compost. Several topics were raised surrounding this topic. Commissioner Shaw feels we should encourage residents to composting their own yards. Possibly an education opportunity surrounding composting. Commissioner O'Keefe raised questions on cost. Commissioner Owen-Thomas committed to learning more on cost. Commissioner Lippert raised several concerns on the topic of offering curbside composting. Does the offering of curbside composting seem elitist? Is the orange composting bucket a symbol of "haves" and "have nots" Commissioner Lippert also wondered what the message was to our community by offering this service? Commissioner DeSantis said there needs to be a communication component to speak to the value or benefits of composting. What are our options? Commissioner Barker wondered if there are terms? There was some additional conversation about the idea of having a survey to gauge interest from residents. By the end of the discussion Chairman Turnquest asked Commissioner Owen-Thomas to create a bigger picture on around the idea of curbside composting.*
- b. The commission was sent notes on a grant. The commission didn't have an opinion one way or another, however, Commissioner Shaw updated the commission on tree grants. Commissioner Shaw is working closely with Dave Becker to apply for as many grant opportunities as possible to rebuild and protect our tree canopy.*
- c. Stephanie asked the commission if at the next meeting we should select which commissioners would reach out to specific vendors in regards to Recyclepalooza. She also wondered if we should begin advertising in our Village enews to let residents*

*know what items we will be collecting in the fall so we can get people thinking about it.*

IX. New Business

- a. *Commissioners Shaw and Klages have agreed to oversee the Flossmoor seed library. Thank you!*
- b. *The commission has decided to clean up Flossmoor road for the April 2<sup>nd</sup> Southland Community Clean Up Day.*
- c. *New resident event on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Stephanie shared the CRC would love for commissioners to attend and hand out their famous glass cleaner.*
- d. *The commission will be assisting public works in the planting of 30 trees on April 16. Stephanie will create a sign up.*
- e. *Mayor's Monarch pledge installation will wait until the flowers have had a chance to bloom. Possibly June.*
- f. *Some of the Commissioners wondered if there was available space for a community garden next to the fire dept parking lot. There was talk of a possible expansion of the parking lot so at this time the commission will table the idea.*
- g. *The commission hasn't participated in this event as a group in previous years.*

X. Student Update

*There is no student update at this time.*

XI. There were no caring and sharing announcements.

XIII. Adjournment

*Commissioners Shaw made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Barker Second. Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm*

Next Meeting: March 15, 2022