

Village of Flossmoor

Green Commission Meeting

Time: Feb 16, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Meeting Minutes

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82572922686>

Meeting ID: 825 7292 2686

One tap mobile (312)626-6799

- I. Call to Order
Chair Turnquest called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
- II. Roll Call
Present: Chair Turnquest, Commissioners O'Keefe, DeSantis, Ratowitz, and Scharon;
Student Representative Benjamin Turnquest
Absent: Commissioners Barker and Shaw
Staff: Laura Brennan-Levy
- III. Welcome Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Commission
None.
- IV. Approval of January minutes
Chair Turnquest asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2020 meeting. Motion: Commissioner DeSantis, Second: Commissioner Scharon. Motion passed by a voice vote.
- V. Green Commission Budget Review
There is \$600 remaining in the budget for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2021. Commissioners will consider current projects with immediate expenses by the next meeting.
- VI. Commission Goals Goal Setting, Themes and Subcommittees for 2020-2021: Entire Commission
 - A. Each Commissioner's update on assigned areas
 - Phil: Mayors Monarch Pledge update – workplan
Mayor Braun signed the official National Wildlife Federation's Mayors Monarch Pledge, and the Village of Flossmoor committed to three actions for 2021:
 - 1) Issue a Proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. *Commissioner DeSantis working with Assistant Village Manager Allison Matson to align proclamation with actions.*

2) Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

Two sources for milkweed plant and seed donations have been identified: Kay MacNeil - "Milkweed for Monarchs" website Frankfort, Illinois; and Tristan Shaw – Possibility Place Nursery in Monee, Illinois.

3) Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar producing plants in public community gardens. *Commissioners DeSantis and Shaw are working with Village Arborist Dave Becker to identify community spaces that would benefit from native plantings. Plans will be discussed at future meetings on locations, planting needs, and utilizing volunteers. Assistant Village Manager Matson will share matching grant opportunities.*

- Eric: Reducing chemicals, pesticides, herbicides and hazardous waste, Greenhouse gas emissions and energy – no report.
- Tristan/Jen: Native Plants and landscaping, Tree planting, and Adopt an Island Ordinance & identify other ordinances that the Green Commission could pass – no report
- Hilary/Janelle: Exploring the Greenest Region Compact goals – no report.
- Janelle: Flossmoor School District 161 Green Team Liaison
Commissioner Sharon has made connections with Flossmoor School District 161 Green Teams at the district level, four elementary schools, and Parker Jr. High School. An area of collaborative interest is creating and maintaining green play/activity spaces at each school. Sharon will work with Green Teams on project ideas that are aligned with the Monarch Pledge. Commissioner O’Keefe will provide contact information on IJP School Green Team to include in discussions.
- Ben/Ernie/Everyone: Youth Development, Ben: HFHS Environmental Club Liaison, Promotional campaign language for a call for resident-created Green videos. No report.

VII. Old Business

Chair Turnquest will put together a Recyclpalooza task list in preparation for the event. The Village should communicate with residents that the event will be moved from May to October, 2021. Commissioners will help identify other recycling events in the spring and summer to share with residents.

-With two commissioner vacancies, the group would like to help recruit new members. Laura will forward the commission application link.

VIII. New Business

A. Southland Green Committee Spring Cleanup – April 2021

The Southland Green Committee will be publicizing a do-it-yourself Community Cleanup project during the month of April. Laura will share more information and the flyer when available.

B. 2021 Calendar of events and projects

The commission will put together a timeline of 2021 project and events, including expected expenses.

-Commissioner Schraon is interested in ways to share the Village of Flossmoor's Green projects and designations with current and potential residents. There is a Green Resources page on the Village website. Laura will help work on written commission guidelines to include in resources.

-Commissioner O'Keefe shared information on a Facebook group called "South Suburbs for Greenspace Over Concrete". The group is described on the Facebook page as: *A multi-racial group of concerned residents of Homewood, Hazel Crest, East Hazel Crest, Flossmoor, Chicago Heights, South Holland and Glenwood formed in opposition to Diversified Partner LLC's planned development of Calumet Country Club (2136 175th St, Homewood, IL 60430) into a fulfillment/trucking hub.* Commissioners can contact O'Keefe directly for more information.

IX. Adjournment

Chair Turnquest called for a motion to adjourn. Motion: Student Representative Ben Turnquest, Second: Commissioner DeSantis. Motion passed by a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 16, 2021