

**Village of Flossmoor**  
**Green Commission Meeting**

**MINUTES**

- I. Call to Order  
Chair Turnquest called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
- II. Roll Call  
Present: Chair Turnquest, Commissioners O’Keefe, DeSantis, Ratowitz, Scharon, Barker, Lippert and Klages  
Absent: Commissioner Shaw, Student Representative Benjamin Turnquest  
Staff: Laura Brennan-Levy
- III. Welcome Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Commission  
No citizens present.
- IV. Approval of March 16, 2021 minutes  
Chair Turnquest asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2021 meeting. Motion: Commissioner O’Keefe, Second: Commissioner DeSantis. Motion passed by a voice vote.
- V. Green Commission Budget Review  
The commission has \$300 remaining in the budget after the native plant seed purchase. After discussion, the commission agree to spend \$50 – Homewood Science Center birdhouse fundraiser, \$25 Flossmoor Art Commission Barrels of Hope fundraiser, and the remainder on Flossmoor business gift cards to use as program prizes. A budget of \$1,000 has been set for May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022. The commission will determine budget allocations for 2021-22 programs and events.
- 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  
Commissioner DeSantis is working with Dave Becker of Public Works to plan three Monarch Butterfly Gardens in Leavitt Park, near Heather Hill School, and by the Dartmouth Road bridge. Planting in Leavitt Park will start in May. The gardens will include low maintenance prairie native plants for Public Works upkeep. The commission will plan signage to highlight the Mayor’s Monarch Pledge.  
  
Technology and historical home preservation – no update.
    - 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  
Commissioner Shaw was not in attendance, but reported to Laura that he purchased \$300 of native plant seeds for the Flossmoor Seed Library. The commission agreed to

promote and educate residents on the Mayor's Monarch Pledge through the Flossmoor Seed Library.

- Hilary/Janelle: Exploring the Greenest Region Compact goals  
No report.
- Janelle: Flossmoor School District 161 Green Team Liaison  
Commissioner Sharon reported on School District 161 programs:  
Dave Becker will help plant a tree at Flossmoor Hills School for Arbor Day.  
Sharon has been in communication with Pam Abbott, the Green Team sponsor at Flossmoor Hills School, on current and future programs. She has also reached out to Superintendent Smith to offer Flossmoor Green Commission support for school district Green Team projects. One discussion point is identifying green play space opportunities when playgrounds are surveyed for improvements.  
Commissioner O'Keefe shared news from IJP school. The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is planting milkweed seeds, and the principal is looking to provide seeds for every student. O'Keefe noted that there is a free seed giveaway at Izaak Walton Preserve on Saturday mornings.
- Ben/Ernie/Everyone: Youth Development, Ben: HFHS Environmental Club Liaison, Promotional campaign language for a call for resident-created Green videos.  
No report.
- New commissioner assignments  
Commissioner Klages did research on residential rain barrel usage promotion. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago offers delivered rain barrel for \$48.78, but may offer a senior citizen discount in the near future. Klages will watch for price reduction, and get information on varieties of rain barrels from other sources. Commissioner O'Keefe reported on a plant labelling project with the Flossmoor Library that was put on hold. Commissioner Lippert will get plant labelling supplies from Laura, and work with O'Keefe to get the project going.

#### VII. Old Business

##### A. Spring Tree Planting

Almost all of the 45 trees have already been planted.

##### B. 2021 Calendar of events and projects

The commission will review the 2021-22 programs and events schedule and determine budget allocations at the May meeting.

##### C. Recyclpalooza Planning – October, 2021

Chair Turnquest will make planning timeline and vendor contact list for the May meeting.

Village staff will check availability of Saturday October 2, 2021 with Parker Jr. High School.

#### VIII. New Business

Chair Turnquest will meet with new Mayor Michelle Nelson in May to discuss Green Commission communication and connection to the Board.

#### IX. Adjournment

Chair Turnquest called for a motion to adjourn. Motion: Commissioner Lippert, Second: Commissioner DeSantis. Motion passed by a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 18, 2021