

Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission
Tuesday, February 10, 2026
Tinley Park Village Hall – Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by Co-Chair **Erin Bradley**, at 7:00 p.m..

ROLL CALL

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

Members: Amanda Loxtercamp, Co-Chair
 Erin Bradley, Co-Chair
 Dee Molinare
 Elizabeth Taylor
 Brandon Wigboldy
 Evan Vogt
 Roger Zylstra
 Paul Michael Yedwofski (Assoc.)
 Anne Mitchell, Management Analyst
 Denise Maly-Politano, Commission Secretary
Guests: Kelly Oswald, Special Event Specialist
 Juliet Mathey, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Amanda Loxtercamp made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by **Evan Vogt**. Agenda approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dee Molinare made a motion to approve the January 13, 2026, seconded by **Evan Vogt** pending revisions. Roll call taken. Minutes approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation from Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Recycling Initiative

Juliet Mathey presented. She explained about the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Recycling Initiative, what they are, what the hope to do. Cover 275 municipalities. Work with mayors and elected officials. Now branching out to commissions. Create “REO”, the Recycling and Education Outreach Grant. The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Recycling Initiative has the following goals:

- Get residents excited about recycling
- Increase recycling and decrease contamination within recycling
- Improve quality of recyclables

The caucus is currently working with four counties: Cook, DuPage, Lake and Will.

Data comparison from 2024 to 2026. Twelve percent recycling rate in 2024 with data from single family up to 3-unit homes included in figures. Looking to increase recycling tonnage by 15%. Batteries are now accepted by retailers for recycling. No longer allowed to put in landfills.

Website of feedthecart.org features “Loop” recycling can for recycling. Named in homage to the Loop in downtown Chicago.

Increase interest through games, activities, information, flyers, workshops and other digital outreach programs.

Explained cart tagging. Volunteers work with haulers and collect data by examining curbside trash and recycling bins. The volunteers leave behind a tag on the bins with a rating. About 1,000 homes were reviewed during a four week period.

Evan Vogt asked if other townships have been contacted for ideas.

Juliet suggested looking at “Recycle Coach”. This website and/or application tells you where to put certain items: the recycling bin or the landfill.

Kelly Oswald suggested Juliet attend the Art and Garden Market on May 9th or the Farmer’s Market every Saturday beginning the first week of June. Allows 1-3 nonprofits to attend each week, free of charge, to promote their organization.

Juliet stated there are lower performing numbers in the south suburbs. There is a list of municipal resources on the website to review. Stated recycling should be clean, dry, empty, with lids on. The resin number makes up the recycling material. Recycle aluminum cans, plastic, glass, paper and cardboard.

Juliet stated ComEd has an energy savings program. If you are income qualified, you can get full benefits for energy savings. If you are not income qualified, you can still sign up but you will not get the full benefits.

Discuss Village Website Changes

Erin Bradley would like to consolidate the landing page, and move some items to the EEC page. If anyone has any other ideas, pass them on. HH waste, solar, and eco friendly moved to resources page.

Anne Mitchell stated the village is revamping the village website. It is in the early stages but the new version should be more visually appealing.

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS:

Earth Day 2026

Erin Bradley has secured the following vendors: MWRD with saplings, Will County Forest Preserve, Sierra Club, Tinley Park Public Library with the bookmobile, Illinois Environmental Council, Lake Catherine, Sag Moraine, Kelly Oswald with information on the Farmer’s Market,

Cook County Forest Preserve, Will County Green Team, composting, Cook County Department of Sustainability, and Out Our Front Door (biking club), to name a few.

Suggested a seed swap and planting event possibly April 22nd, and a forest preserve hike April 23rd. Looking for other activities if anyone has any other ideas. Possibly 3R day, community clean-up, or a take it outside/visit to a local park or forest preserve.

Evan Vogt suggested a Bio-Blitz with a snapshot of a park or forest, or a list/scavenger hunt, i.e., find an oak tree. Also suggested a hand out on April 18th to be returned April 24th with activities to be completed.

Erin Bradley suggested promoting meatless Monday. Also suggesting having another give away.

[Ideas discussed include: gardening gloves, trowels, hats, magnets, tags for gardening.]

Dee Molinare suggested a poster contest for the kids.

Kelly Oswald offered to have the scroll sign advertise the event. Also stated that ice rink staff would be available to help that day.

Strategic Plan and Upcoming Priorities

Dee Molinare made a motion to delay discussion on the Strategic Plan until next month's meeting but to pursue edits in the meantime. Seconded by **Elizabeth Taylor**.

Newsletter Updates/Green Corner – Elizabeth Taylor

- **Elizabeth Taylor** will include fun facts about Tinley Park and International Environmental Education Day on January 26th. Will include facts about a migration corridor in Tinley Park with transient population cranes between Tinley Park and Palos.
- February 2nd is World Wetlands Day.
- Bartle Grassland is a nesting site for lots of bird species.
- January 28th is International Reducing Co2 Emissions Day. Tips on how to reduce carbon footprint.
- February 18th is National Battery Day
- Will include Earth Day Fair date, time, events

Waste Disposal Services Contract – Tabled

EEC Email Monthly Update

N/A

Recycling Event and Preliminary Planning – August 22nd

Amanda Loxtercamp would like to have all of the vendor information, contact person for each vendor and have the EEC oversee vendors. Need to decide on time for the event and how long we need to reserve the truck for shredding.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

N/A

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by **Evan Vogt**, seconded by **Roger Zylstra**. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

/dmp