

Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition (ECCC) Monthly Business Meeting

February 7, 2017

Elmhurst Public Library

7:03 pm – 8:25 pm

League Observer: Sue Williams

Members present and their organization:

Lisa Gerhold, ECCC Co-Chair

Barbara Lonergan, ECCC Co-Chair

Jan Foster, Elmhurst Garden Club

Gael Ronnau, ECCC Member

Bob Bacon, ECCC Member and liaison for Sierra Club

Mike Howard, Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce

Bryan Blank, Elmhurst Public Library

Sue Williams, LWV Elmhurst

Estimated Number Attending: 8

Agenda

Priority Business:

One Earth Film Fest: March 5th Screening of *Time to Choose* at 1 pm – Elmhurst College, Schaible Science Center, 190 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst

The movie, *Time to Choose*, addresses the challenges of climate change and humanity's race against the clock to implement solutions.

Lisa thanked everyone that helped raised money to support this event, including the LWV Elmhurst. Tamara McHugh, chairperson for the Fest, sent a report: As of February 7, \$1,700 has been raised for this event. The funds are due February 15 and the goal is \$2,000.

Ken Johnson, Sustainability Coordinator at Elmhurst College, will moderate a discussion following the movie. A representative from 350.org's Chicago office will be the subject matter expert. Other environmental advocates have been invited.

Additional Fest Movies in DuPage County will be hosted by College of DuPage in HSC #1234, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn.

Crying Earth Rise Up - Tuesday, March 7 at 7 pm

Death by Design - Thursday, March 9 at 7 pm

A complete list of One Earth Film Fest's showings can be found at: <http://www.oneearthfilmfest.org>

Pesticide Program Thursday, Feb. 23rd, Elmhurst Public Library at 7 pm – Jump-Start your Natural Lawn Care Plan

ECCC is partnering with the Midwest Pesticide Action Center (MPAC) and Dig Right In Landscaping to provide residents with steps for a greener, healthier lawn. Learn about the harmful effects of lawn pesticides and

herbicides, how to rehabilitate your lawn off its addiction to synthetic chemicals, and how to improve the physical condition of your soil and turf grass. Jill reported that she has put up posters in downtown. Comcast is coming to videotape the presentation.

10th Anniversary outreach & Fall Fundraiser/Celebration

It is the 10-year anniversary of ECCC. ECCC is reaching out to past members including the City of Elmhurst. The city was very active for the first few years; however, after Dennis Streicher retired, Elmhurst has not had a regular attendee.

ECCC is looking to partner with an organization to fundraise a project. Lisa spoke with Dan Payne of the Park District regarding projects that ECCC might sponsor. A 3-bin recycling can for one of the parks or planting native planting has been consider. The cost of a 3-bin can is \$8,000 and the Park District is hesitant to have ECCC do plantings since there is long-term maintenance for these projects. Jan would like to see a butterfly garden at the south end of Larch along First St. The city owns this property so they will be contacted. Other thoughts were plantings at Marjorie Davis Park next to the community gardens. The building south of Glos Memorial Park will be removed this summer as part of the purchase/exchange between Elmhurst and the Park District; perhaps they might need something there.

Other possible projects are for the Elmhurst YMCA, Ray Graham or Lyons Club.

Ongoing/TBD:

Solar purchase program updates: No report

Science & Climate Marches:

- The March for Science has been scheduled for Saturday, April 22 in Washington, D.C. Satellite marches are planned in Chicago and around the world. Scientists and science supporters are marching to express their support for the very real role that science plays and the need to respect and encourage research.
- The People's Climate Mobilization a march in Washington D.C. on Saturday, April 29. Marches are planned across the country to stand up for communities and climate.

City of Elmhurst Waste Contract: ECCC is looking into food scrap and electronic curbside recycling for a fee.

City business recycling meeting: Looking into Public Works Agenda.

Joint Program with Elmhurst Action for a Better Tomorrow (ABT): Jen Walling, IL Environmental Council will be the speaker.

Elmhurst Public Library Climate Change program: Bryan is working on this to be held in the fall.

Upcoming Programs/Important dates:

League of Women Voters Candidate Forum: Feb. 12 at City Hall, 1 pm

Natural Lawn Care Program: Feb. 23 at Elmhurst Public Library, 7 pm

Plight of the Monarch: March 21 Monarch Program

Food Waste: April 27 Food scrap program

Library room reservation day: May 1

First UCCC Green Garden Faire: May 13

Farm Tour: June 24

Children's Monarch Festival: July 9 at EGC Faire. Barbara and Jan requested a grant for \$1,000 from the City of Elmhurst and are waiting to hear back.

Additional Announcements: None

Future ECCC Meeting Dates:

March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July 7, and August 1

Date Submitted: February 10, 2017