

Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition Meeting

May 1, 2018, 7:00 pm

Observer: Nick Perrone

- Introduction
 - Call to order: meeting began at 7:01
 - Lisa Gerhold- Chair of CC
 - Gael Ronnau- CC member
 - Mary Getty- Elmhurst Garden Club Representative
 - Brian Blank – Elmhurst Public Library Representative
 - Joe Konecy- Visitor
 - Rex Irby - CC member
 - Barbara Lonergan - CC member
 - Karen Pachyn - First Congregational UCC Representative
 - Jennifer Hennen - CC member/First Cong. UCC member
 - Glory Jacquat - Visitor
 - Henke Stefanik - Elmhurst Garden Club Representative

- Announcements
 - Mary mentioned the Elmhurst Garden Walk and Fair
 - July 8th
 - Six gardens in community participate
 - Funds will go to various scholarships; donation envelopes were made available
 - Mentioned that purchasing tickets ahead of time was better than day of

- ECCC 2018/19 meeting dates
 - Upcoming ECCC meeting dates: June 5, July 10 (note second Tues.), August 7
 - ECCC steering committee next meeting, May, TBD

- DuPage Clean Energy Coalition report
 - Rex stated it was their second official meeting
 - Mission and vision statement completed

- No permanent meeting location or website available as of yet
- York Township ballot initiative update
 - Climate resolution was approved to be put on the ballot for the November election
 - Barbara suggested that in upcoming meetings, plans of action should be formulated prior to the election
- Electricity aggregation update- Gael
 - Right now nothing is being done for a new contract
- Pesticide update – Jill (not able to attend)
 - Lisa explained that they met with Dan Payne at the Park District, two weeks ago
 - Signs are to be put up at the pesticide free park (Van Voorst) explaining the pesticide-free test site and why the Park District is doing the test, etc.
 - No-mow areas are expanding to save time, resources, and allow it to be more natural
 - Press release will eventually be written explaining in more depth as well as speaking on natural lawn care
 - Quarterly meetings will be set scheduled with Cool Cities and Park District
 - Dan from Park District wishes to hear more from the public so Lisa and Jill will consider promoting a “call to action” for public to take part in

- D205 Facilities update - Gael
 - Gael stated that district is moving forward on their plans to develop facilities
 - Encouragement to implement sustainable properties to help the environment

- Hoop house support

- Lisa stated a position statement being sent on behalf of CC
- Was kept focused on food growing and sustainable living
- Requested change in code, and are in support
- Virgil family is planning to show a documentary on their story

- 2018 upcoming programs/events
 - Green Garden Fair: Sat, May 12, 9-noon (ECCC will have a table)
 - Eco Car Show: Thurs., May 17 6-8 p.m. (co-host with EPL)
 - Elmhurst College Arboretum Tour: Thurs., June 14, 6:30 pm, starts east of the Frick center at the Niebuhr statue
 - Bob's Fresh & Local Farm field trip: Aug., 25, 10 am, Brunner Forest Preserve Farm, Dundee, IL
 - Tentative:
 - Beekeeping: late fall (Co-host with Elmhurst Garden Club)
 - Lisa wants to get things started in preparation for late fall
 - Solar program/event/ISEA tour (Sept. 22)
 - Lisa talked about doing a program after the film fest
 - 11 houses within Elmhurst known to have solar power

- Idea to direct traffic for car show brought up by Lisa
 - Barbara suggests asking for 2 Teslas since one is going to be used for test driving

- Remaining EPL spring Eco-programming
 - May 7 – Rachel Carson – The Woman Who Launched the Environmental Movement (Leslie Goddard historical portrayal)

- May 9 – Common Connections film series: Wasted! The Story of Food Waste
- May 10 – TED talks: A Case for Optimism on Climate Change and Let's Prepare for our New Climate
- May 17 – Eco Car Show 6-8 p.m. (ECCC co-hosting)
- Meeting ended at 8:35