

**DOWNERS GROVE**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMISSION**

**Minutes**

**March 8, 2018**

I. Roll Call

Present: Chairwoman Pelloso, Commissioner Duda, Commissioner Getz,  
Commissioner Marron

Commissioner Ellis arrived late to the meeting and was marked as present.

Absent: Commissioner Horvatin, Commissioner Salman

A quorum was established.

II. Visitor Welcome

One visitor, Ms. Julie Rimbault was in attendance. Ms. Rimbault introduced herself as a member of the Green Grovers Committee of the DG Marchers.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment during this time.

IV. View and Approval of November 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Chairwoman Pelloso asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Getz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Duda.

V. Staff update on ongoing projects

- Belmont pollinator garden:

Ms. Miles told the commission the Conservation Foundation is selecting the seed mix for the garden. A bid was sent out by staff for the work to be done on the garden and the bid would be received back soon. Ms. Miles noted the design was still being worked on. Chairwoman Pelloso asked if there would be signage and Ms. Miles noted signage was planned for the area.

- Composting

Ms. Miles said the optional composting program would begin April 1, 2018 in conjunction with the yard waste program and new contract with Republic Services. Any resident with a yard waste container can participate at no charge as the yard waste container will be used for the composting material. Ms. Miles noted staff would begin advertising soon to let residents know about the program

and potentially release an informational video. Staff will post a detailed list of what can and cannot be composted as part of that advertisement. Commissioner Getz asked if the container was given by Republic and Ms. Miles said yes. There was discussion if residents could use their own yard waste container as opposed to a rented cart from Republic and Ms. Miles said she would follow up with Republic on that question.

Ms. Miles noted the composting program would coincide with the yard waste program through December at which time the program will be evaluated.

Chairwoman Pelloso asked if Republic can provide a smaller countertop container for composting. Commissioner Getz said her hometown made those available through a grant that she would look into.

Commissioner Getz asked if Republic could hold an informational meeting for residents. Ms. Miles said she would speak to the Village's contact at Republic about holding a meeting.

There was some discussion on how some of the members use their own container for yard waste and questions on what kind of container could be used if Republic did allow containers other than their own cart. Ms. Miles said she would follow up with the Village's contact on those items.

Chairwoman Pelloso asked if the compost was made available to the public. Ms. Miles said she would check on that item again if residents could have compost dropped off.

## VI. New Business

Chairwoman Pelloso asked Ms. Rimbault about the Green Grovers future. Ms. Rimbault said there was discussion about the DG Marchers being taken over by another group but the Green Grovers would continue in some form. Ms. Rimbault discussed the pollinator garden at the library.

Commissioner Ellis asked about the types of plantings at Village Hall as discussed at the last meeting. Ms. Miles said the Village uses pollinators and other natural plantings whenever possible. Ms. Miles noted a small area at Village Hall off of Curtiss Street was a planting area with natural grass and other natural plantings.

Commissioner Ellis provided a recap of her meeting with the Mayor on the climate working group and reported the Mayor was interested in learning more about the program. Commissioner Ellis said she would follow up with the Mayor again and would report out after that meeting.

Chairwoman Pelloso noted she wanted to discuss the pollinator agreement again with the Mayor. Commissioner Ellis said this was part of her discussion with the Mayor and the Mayor was interested in this as well through use of a community group so as not to burden staff. Commissioner Ellis noted the Green Grovers had put information together and she would report out on that item at the next meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Chairwoman Pelloso asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Marron made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. The motion was passed by a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned.