



Village of Westchester

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Village President
NICK STEKER

Village Clerk
JENNIFER HALL

Trustees
TRACY JENNINGS
CATHY KURATKO
TRACY MARKEY
ROBERT MORALES
EVELYN SLAVIC

Village Manager
PAUL NOSEK

Village Attorney
MATTHEW WELCH

GROW Ecological Commission

March 3rd, 2022 @ 6:30pm

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge

3. Inspiration

- a. N. Molinaro 2 Quotes from Richard Powers “The Overstory”

“People aren’t the apex species they think they are. Other creatures-bigger, smaller, slower, faster, older, younger, more powerful-call the shots, make the air and eat sunlight. Without them, nothing.”

“You and the tree in your backyard come from a common ancestor. A billion and a half years ago, the two of you parted ways. But even now, after an immense journey in separate directions, that tree and you still share a quarter of your genes...”

4. Roll Call

5. **Public Participation** - In order to give as many visitors as possible an opportunity to speak and in the interest of adjourning the meeting by 8:00 p.m., please limit your comments to 3 minutes in length, unless further time is granted by the Commission.

6. Review of Minutes

- a. [2-3-22 ForApproval - GROW Meeting Agenda with Minutes.docx](#)

7. New Business

- a. Priorities for the upcoming year (Budget Items) - All
- b. Greenest Region Compact (4/26/16) - Liz (All)
- i. W20: FEMA Community Rating System (5/1/20) - Nicole
 - ii. E12-17: Advance renewable energy Clean Energy - Liz
 - iii. M27/M28/M34: Budget for Common Bike Racks - Complete Streets Opportunities - Lee
 - iv. Ecologically Sustainable Practices / Bike Event - Lee
 - v. Youth & Nature Education - Diane
 - vi. Community Outreach - Jasmine
 - vii. Native Riverwalk? & Pumpkin Smash - Matt
 - viii. Tree Canopy? - LeeAnn
 - ix. Waste Management Contract - Nicole
- c. **iNaturalist Event 4/29-5/3 - WRP, Park District & Library (@ Home) - Newspaper DUE 3/15**
- d. One Earth Film Fest 3/4-13 (<https://www.oneearthfilmfest.org/>) - Liz

- e. Library Brainstorm w/ Kris Jacobson & Patrick Callaghan - Nicole
 - i. Key Priorities GROW can assist with to fulfill America In Bloom grant requirements:
 - 1. Community Vitality - Outreach - Education
 - 2. Landscaped Areas (Public Commons)
 - 3. Environmental Efforts
 - 4. Urban Forestry
- f. Grant Writing Opportunities / Foundation (NFP) - Nikki
- g. Environmental Justice - John Brooks
- h. Call for Agenda Items 7 - 10 days prior to next meeting - All

8. Old Business

- a. **Recorder Website Update - HOLD VOTE** - Name J. Brooks as Recorder/Eco Ally on the village website.
- b. **Eco Ally group formation - HOLD VOTE** - What does the public have access to, all documents? Is an email list public knowledge? Clarification needed from Matt on formation of Eco Allies without releasing information publicly of personal information. Events, discussions how controlled and where kept?
- c. Evie tbd - Open Meeting Act - OMA Training, all commissioners or only liaison. Chat group/email, captured by municipal liaison to record an archive of email. How does this work and can we archive?
- d. Evie tbd - Budget - How detailed do we need to be with requesting funds or want to change where the funds go? Educational speakers come to the village. Are events too broad a title? Village resources in hours. Rules of engagement with Plan & Zoning and Jim, Community Development. Can we call a meeting with P&Z?
- e. All/Evie - List of Action Items or Accomplishments for the Year. What is our yearly FOCUS? Bring Priorities and Budget items. Evie to check on protocols and spreadsheets with a history. Was there a prior Environmental Sustainability budget? Does Paul have an amount in mind?

9. Information Only

10. Adjournment

The Village of Westchester will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. Any one who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the Village of Westchester, should contact the office of the Fire Chief, 10300 W. Roosevelt Road, Westchester, IL, (708) 345-0441, as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.