



# Village of Westchester

GROW Ecological  
Commission Regular  
Meeting

**June 2, 2022 @ 6:30pm**

**Village Hall Board Room**

**1. Call to Order - at 6:40 PM**

**2. Pledge**

**3. Inspiration**

a. L. Kruszynski

b. Next Month:

**4. Roll Call**

**Matt Downs**

**Lee Kaufman**

**LeeAnn Kruszynski**

**Nicole (Molly) Molinaro**

**Diane Scott**

**Elizabeth Wiseman-Chase**

**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.

The public library is hosting an event to celebrate the new garden on June 16.

## 6. Review of Minutes

a. Approval of 5-12-22 minutes.

Evie: The minutes need to reflect when items were not discussed, they need to be deferred.

Diane - Motion to approve, Matt seconds, all approve.

## 7. New Business

a. *Discussion/Update*: LeeAnn - Community-Wide Yard Sale on September 17, 2022

Leeann - The 18th will be a rain date, there is discussion about spreading to both dates to alleviate congestion. Will call it "Reuse treasure hunt".

Evie - next steps will be to meet with Brookfield organizers who did a similar event. Will need deadlines. The woman who ran the Canterbury sale is willing to help. The village will back the project, so no permits will be needed. Get it on Newsletter, Facebook, etc.

Lee- what's the next step - is there a next step for things that do not sell? Recycling? Or some centralized initiative.

Evie - people will need to know that they cannot put junk on their sidewalk and wait for junkers.

Waste Management - review the contract and see what they can offer.

b. *Discussion/Update*: Diane - House State Rep. Ann Williams, Head of Energy&Enviro Committee

No updates yet.

c. *Data Discussion*: Liz/Nicole - Proposed Municipal Resolution Endorsing the 2021 Climate Action Plan for the Chicago Region - "Climate Action Plan Template Resolution for Municipalities"

Liz - want to make it clear we are not measuring levels or committing to any levels. This is just to get us started on our journey and build resilience. We signed on to the Greenest Region Compact. They overlap, and we will be working toward a climate action plan.

GROW would need to vote to have Evie pass on the climate resolution to the trustees.

d. *Opportunity*: Liz - For Village to apply for participation in Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Solar Clearinghouse (end date for application 8/31/22)

Would need an application to be filled out so that people could subscribe to solar farm and have savings.

e. *Opportunity*: Liz - For residents to participate in GROW SOLAR CHICAGOLAND (end date to enroll 9/30/22)

To have solar panels on one's roof.

- f. *Opportunity*: Liz - Electric vehicle acquisitions as part of municipal fleets
  - i. i.e. Police vetting and acquisition of Mustang Mach-E

Liz presented statistics from the IPCC report to show the impact of taking action against climate change., particularly where we can decarbonize our resources, and investing renewable resources as a village. The municipality will have to apply for solar. Individuals can also get solar panels.

Application deadline for the Solar in August 31.

Liz would like to have an info session “Solar Power Hour” with Grow Solar - will need to advertise. There is a 22 tax credit for the solar panels through 2024. The more people who sign up, the bigger the discount.

Electric cars for Westchester - discussion of ICE vs Electric vehicles. Cost savings of \$13k over 6 years. (See presentation). Would have to have a 5 year plan for EV. The funding can be out back into investments in environmental initiatives.

Evie - Step 1: Can we put in charging stations? That is step 1. We need to be able to charge them.

Evie - For the Village to put their name on something, the lawyer would have to look at it, they would have to contact other villages, and set up a process to understand the benefits.

## **8. Old Business**

a. *Status* - Open Meeting Act Due w/i 90 days - OMA Training, all commissioners

1. Lee needs to complete his training

h. Waste Management Expectations

i. Evie - Copy of Contract on radar. GROW cannot be part of the negotiations but GROW input is welcome. Contract expires next year. Will send contract when it ready.

### **- Fourth of July parade - GROW should participate**

- Lee motions to join the parade, Nicole seconds, all approve.
- Get Monarch seeds to give out in the parade?

## **10. Adjournment**

**Lee Motions to adjourn, Diane seconds. Adjourn at 8:10 PM.**