



Village of Westchester

10300 ROOSEVELT ROAD, WESTCHESTER, IL 60154

(708)345-0020 FAX (708)345-2873

WWW.WESTCHESTER-IL.ORG

GROW Ecological Commission Regular Meeting

October 6, 2022 @ 6:30pm

Village Hall Board Room

Village President
NICK STEKER

Village Clerk
JENNIFER HALL

Trustees
TRACY JENNINGS
CATHY KURATKO
TRACY MARKEY
ROBERT MORALES
EVELYN SLAVIC

Village Manager
GREG HRIBAL

Village Attorney
MATTHEW WELCH

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge

3. Inspiration

- a. N. Way
- b. Next Month: 11/3 -

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. Approval of 8-4-22 minutes
- b. Approval of 9-1-22 minutes

7. Old Business

- a. Pumpkin Smash Planning (Matt)
- b. Reusa-Palooza Debrief (LeeAnn)
- c. Native Plant Sale Debrief (Nicole)
- d. Tour de Proviso Debrief (Liz)
- e. Waste Management Contract Update (Evie)
- f. Tree Canopy (LeeAnn)
 - i. Fall Tree Planting 50/50 program and resident instructions (Diane)
- g. Cook County Forest Preserve 'Vote Yes' Referendum (Diane)
<https://www.voteyesforestpreserves.org/org>
- h. Board Report (Nicole/Liz)

8. New Business

- a. Community Solar (Farm Subscription) Event by CUB – Sponsored by GROW EC - November?(Liz)
- b. Low Income Solar (Panels) for All (Liz)
- b. Vehicle Sticker Contest: Nature in Westchester (Diane)

- c. GROW Banner (Diane)
- d. Resident T-shirt Request (Nicole)
- e. Bee City USA/Native Seeds (Nicole)
- f. 2023 GROW Meeting Dates (Nicole)

9. 2022 Goal & Priority: Community Outreach & Engagement

- a. Budget (\$1,500 for GROW booth materials and community outreach events)
- b. Expenditures (\$0)
- c. Commissioner interests/participation
 - i. Downs – Waste reduction, restoration, reduction in pesticide usage particularly to lawns
 - ii. Kaufman – Alternative transportation, energy, landscaping, land use (placemaking), community engagement for change and improvement
 - iii. Kruszynski – Trash/waste, Trees, Flooding
 - iv. Molinaro – Pesticide awareness and pollinator habitat. To reduce heat islands and make better use of our commons which includes Park District and Schools. Overall environmental literacy and ecological restoration. Flooding and reviewing FEMAs Community Rating System for Westchester.
 - v. Scott - Legislative
 - vi. Wiseman-Chase – Clean air, Clean energy, Climate Action Plan

Environmental/Educational Events

a. Upcoming Events:

- v. 10/8 - (Evie) – Community Shred Event/Medication Takeback sponsored by Village of Westchester
- vi. 11/5 – (Matt) – Pumpkin Smash sponsored by GROW EC
- vii. 11/? – (Liz) - Solar in the Community (Solar Farm Subscription) Presentation w/ Marina Minic from CUB co-hosted by GROW EC

b. GROW Participation in Past Events:

- i. 4/23 – Village Shred/Medication TakeBack, MWRD Compost and Tree Giveaway (Kaufman/Molinaro/Scott/W-Chase)
- ii. 4/29 – Arbor Day Tree Planting at Westchester Primary School (Molinaro/Scott/W-Chase)
- iii. 6/16 – Westchester Public Library West Prairie Ribbon Cutting Event (Molinaro/Scott)
- iv. 7/4 – Village of Westchester - Fourth of July Parade (Downs/Kaufman/Molinaro/Scott/W-Chase)
- v. 8/27 & 8/28 - Grow Solar Power Hour by Citizens Utility Board (CUB) and MW Renewable Energy Association (MREA) sponsored by GROW EC (W-Chase/Kruszynski/Kaufman/Molinaro/Scott/Slavic)
- ii. 9/17 - Reusa-Palooza Village Giveaway/Community-Wide Yard Sale sponsored by GROW EC – (Kruszynski/Slavic/Molinaro/Kaufman/Downs)
- iii. 9/24 – Native Plant Educational Event at Westchester Public Library featuring Dave from “I Love Plants” (Molinaro, W-Chase)
- iv. 10/1 – Native Plant Sale at Westchester Community Church (Molinaro)

10. Monthly Newsletter (DUE 15th of prior month)

- i. August - (Liz) Solar
- ii. September – (LeeAnn) Reusa-Palooza
- iii. October – (Matt) Composting and Pumpkin Smash
- iv. November -
- v. December –

11. 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. Anyone 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.

Community Calendar

- i. Park District Meetings @ 7pm**
 - i. 10/10, 11/14 & 12/12
- j. Village Board Meetings @ 6pm**
 - i. 10/11, 10/25, 11/8, 11/22, 12/13&12/27
- k. Economic Development Committee @ 7:30am**
 - i. 10/10, 11/14 & 12/12
- l. Library @ 7pm - CoW 2nd Monday / Reg 4th Monday (Dec 3rd Monday)**
 - i. To attend virtually contact Library Director Fidencio Marbella at fidenciom@westchesterpl.org / 708-562-3573
- m. Grassroots Garden Group Meetings @ 6:30pm**
 - i. 10/24
- n. Save The Prairie Society**