



Village of Westchester

10300 ROOSEVELT ROAD, WESTCHESTER, IL 60154

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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
GREG HRIBAL

Village Attorney
MATTHEW WELCH

GROW Ecological Commission Regular Meeting

February 2, 2023 @ 6:30pm

Village Hall Board Room

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge**
- 3. Inspiration**
 - a. Leann Pettis
 - b. Next Month: 3/2/23
- 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 1-12-2023 minutes
- 7. Old Business**
 - a. Board Reports (Nicole)
 - i. 2022 annual report (LeeAnn)
 - ii. 2023 quarterly reports: April, July, October, January'24 (Nicole)
 - b. 2023 Planning Calendar (Nicole)
 - i. Debrief Nicor Energy Efficiency Events: Sat. 1/21 (28) & Sun. 1/22 (11) (Liz)
 - ii. Planning Citizens Utility Board Solar for All Events (*Proviso residents @ 80% of the mean income level for Cook County*): Dates: Sat. 3/25 & Sun. 3/26: 9:00 am – 10:00 am (Liz)
 - iii. Cycle Event (Lee)
 - c. Climate Action Plan (Liz)
 - i. Discussion: 2023 Westchester Climate Action Plan (Liz)
 - d. FEMA Community Rating System (Nicole)
 - i. Natural Lawn Care Solutions/ Dig Right-In Update
 - e. Follow-up: Buckthorn Stewardship (Nicole)
 - f. "Nature in Westchester" Vehicle Sticker Presentation (Evie)
 - g. Recruitment of current and upcoming Commissioner Vacancies. (Evie)

8. Current Fiscal Year Financial Report

- a. Budget (\$1,500 for GROW booth materials and community outreach events)
- b. Expended (\$45.00 GROW Banner)
- c. Expense request/reimbursement process (Evie)
- d. Requests for reimbursement totaling \$90.00
 - i. Diane: outside printing of July 4th GROW bookmarks - \$90.00
- e. Accounting for commissioner out-of-pocket expenses/donations totaling \$243.04
 - i. Nicole: GROW event shirts - \$72.00
 - ii. Liz: July 4th GROW signage - \$93.04, outside printing of GROW Solar Chicagoland leaflet event invites \$78.00 = \$171.04

9. Upcoming Fiscal Year Financial Planning/Budget (Evie)

- a. Upcoming budget cycle process and timeline
- b. Budgetary quotes

10. New Business

- a. Last Commission meeting send-off for Diane Scott

11. 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.

12. 2023 Goals: Community Education and Engagement

- a. 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. Wiseman-Chase – Clean air, Clean energy, Climate Action Plan
 - vi. Vacancy for the seat previously held by Commissioner Jasmine Pope
 - vii. Vacancy for the seat to be vacated by Commissioner Diane Scott

13. 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.