



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

January 9, 2025 @ 6:30pm

Village Hall Board Room

Village President
GREG HRIBAL

Village Clerk
SOPHIA COLLINS

Trustees
GIA MARIE BENLINE
PETER MARZANO
ROBERT MORALES
EVELYN SLAVIC
NICK STEKER
VICTORIA VANN

Village Manager
BARRY KRUMSTOK
Asst Village Manager
JOHN SCHWARZ
Administrative Services Coordinator
ANNIE CANAVAN
Village Attorney
MATTHEW WELCH

Commissioners
LEE KAUFMAN
LEEANN KRUSZYNSKI
MARIANA NICOLAE
KARI ROBERG
NIKKI WAY
ELIZABETH WISEMAN-CHASE
WALTER WOJCIK

- A. 6:30 - Call to Order**
- B. Pledge**
- C. Roll Call**
- D. Inspiration –**
 - a.** Next Month –
- E. Review of Minutes –** Trustee Slavic (5 min)
 - a. Approval of 12/12/24 regular meeting minutes
- F. Quarterly Reports –** Lee Kaufman; Walt Wojcik (5 min)
- G. Updates from Village Staff and Board Representatives – (10 min)** Annie Canavan, Evie Slavic
 - a. Community Energy Grant – RFQ Status
 - b. Sustainable Purchasing Statement - Update
 - c. GRC Subcommittees – Resident Participation and Process
 - d. Recruitment - Update
- H. Old Business (40 min)**
 - a. GRC Subcommittee Interests (15 min)
 - b. Events
 - i. December event debriefs (5 min)
 - ii. Upcoming event support needs (5 min)
 - c. Newsletter article ideas/support (5 min)
 - iii. February - "Eco-Friendly Valentine's Day" - Walt – 3 min.
 - iv. March -
- 9. New Business (20 min)**
 - i. 2025 Goals – Liz (10 min)
 - ii. Use of stipend from SBC (\$2000; fiscal year ends in April) - Liz (10 min)
 - 1. Previous ideas included engagement materials; rain barrels; native seeds; OneEarth

10. Comments (5 min)

- i. Commission Comments
- ii. Staff/Board Comments

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. 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.

2025 Planning Calendar		
Event	Organizer	Date
Proposed Movie Night: “Being the Change”	Walt	January 2025
Solar Event with CUB	Liz	Spring 2025
Waste Collection with SCARCE	Kari	Spring 2025
Bike Safety Event “Safe Streets for All”	Nikki/Lee	Spring 2025
Guided Tour of Metropolitan Water Reclamation District	Mariana	Spring 2025
Climate Action Event	Walt	Spring/Summer 2025
Home Electrification (w/ Incentives for Electrical Appliances Article)	Liz	Spring/Summer 2025

Newsletter Calendar		
Month	Article Topic	Author
Monthly	Plant Based Recipes	Kari
Monthly	Monthly Food Fact Bullet Point	Walt
January 2025	Indoor Air Quality	Liz
February 2025	Eco-Friendly Valentine’s Day	Walt

2024 Goals: Education and Engagement, Advisement, Climate Action Plan

Lee Kaufman	School Bicycling Event, Electric Powered Equipment for Natural Lawn Care
LeeAnn Kruszynski	Urban Forestry, Reusa Palooza, Climate Action
Mariana Nicolae	Water Quality/Sustainability, Composting, Climate Change Awareness
Kari Roberg	Zero Waste, Connection to Nature, Climate Action
Nikki Way	Reusa Palooza, Commission Marketing support, Green infrastructure/solar/rain and native garden/ecological interest walk, painted rain barrels
Elizabeth Wiseman-Chase	Climate Action Plan, Air Pollution/Health, Incentives for Electric Appliances, Solar Education
Walter Wojcik	Climate Action, Electric Vehicles, EV Car Show