

Village of La Grange Park
Cool Village Commission – Minutes
Wednesday, March 17, 2010

The meeting of the La Grange Park Cool Village Commission was called to order at 7:05 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17, 2010 at the Village Hall, 447 N. Catherine Avenue, La Grange Park, Illinois.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chairperson Patty Rocco called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Members in attendance were:

Commission Members:	Patty Rocco Jamie Zaura John Aikens Donna Twickler
---------------------	---

Absent:	David Mrazek David Grayson Kristen Grimm
---------	--

Others Present:	Julia Cedillo
-----------------	---------------

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Cedillo noted that an updated agenda was at the table as the approval of minutes was omitted from the agenda. She noted that it would be included on future agendas.

3. GREENEST REGION COMPACT OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO

Ms. Rocco provided an overview of the GRC's strategies. In sum, it requires that La Grange Park implement at least seven strategies that enhance health and safety, reduce the consumption of energy and fossil fuels, conserve water, reduce hazardous and solid waste, and air pollution emissions.

Ms. Cedillo [provided a brief overview of the strategies that Village has implemented to date. They included:

- Advertising for regional disposal of electronic equipment
- Education on the improper disposal of electronic waste
- Residential CFL Distribution
- Solar street light
- Tree planting programs - \$20,000 per year or 75 trees
- Residential curbside recycling

The group then worked to address each of the categories and assign members to research in each of the seven areas. Assigned work is as follows:

1. Residential Water Conservation – Julia
2. E-Waste Recycling – John Aikens
3. Residential CFL Dist. – David Grayson
4. Air Strategies – David Mrazek
5. Energy Strategies – Donna Twickler
6. Land Strategies – Patty Rocco
7. Waste Strategies – John Aikens
8. Water Strategies – Jamie Zaura

Each member would conduct research and bring back the findings to the next meeting.

4. COMMUNITY CLIMATE CHANGE NETWORK

Chairperson Patty Rocco asked the group if they thought membership would be an enhancement to what the group is working on. Ms. Rocco stated that membership does not obligate the Village in any way. The group agreed to join and Liaison Cedillo agreed to make the call to join.

Ms. Twickler mentioned another membership that might be worthwhile to join – the Energy Star program. Through joining, the Commission would have another method for measuring its carbon emissions footprint. Ms. Cedillo expressed her concerns about the time required to take on another project. She said she would check into the program and see what is required and what the role of the Intern would be to determine if the Village would sign on. Ms. Cedillo explained that membership should be do-able as long as it was not overly time-consuming.

5. GRANTS / FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The group discussed the topic of grant research. Although the group thought it to be valuable, there might be value in waiting until some progress is made with the emissions inventory and the sustainability plan. The group thought that Dave Grayson (who was not present) could lead the research in this area for the time being.

6. LGP CITIZEN'S GROUP

Ms. Rocco reported that she would extend an invitation to Peggy Voth of Midwest Wildfinders to attend next Commission in April. She could provide an overview of the group's efforts in educating children on sustainability. Ms. Rocco also stated that she would be inviting someone from Blue Arc Energy.

7. ICLEI MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Ms. Rocco reported that the group's membership was complete. The group discussed how the ICLEI software inventory would get done. ICLEI initially reported that a separate username and password could be assigned to Village staff. However, the group was not sure if this applied to Commission members. Julia Cedillo would contact ICLEI to see if the rest of the commission could gain access in an effort to take advantage of all of the benefits of membership.

It was decided that Ms. Twickler would invest some time in becoming familiar with the ICLEI software and website and that she would provide a live ICLEI training at the next CVC Meeting in April. The training would require an Internet connection and so it was suggested that the next meeting might take place at the Library where an Internet connection was readily available. Ms. Cedillo would check on the availability of the room for April 21st.

8. ICLEI MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT

9. DATA GATHERING

Ms. Cedillo provided an update on all of the data gathered to date. Ms. Cedillo reported that both Com Ed and Nicor only had 2009 data available. The group stated that they would like to go back farther than 2009 for the data. Ms. Cedillo inquired as to how far back and the group responded five years or so. Ms. Cedillo would go back to her contacts and fro data back to 2005. Ms. Rocco stated that she could reach out to other communities to see how they obtained their data.

10. TIMELINE / PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Commissioner John Aikens provided a copy of the draft timeline to the group. He stated that the timeline was cut and pasted into word because most people do not have the software to read the file. Commissioner Aikens would send the file to Commissioner Zaura for review. Commissioner Aikens asked that members review the timeline and forward any additions or comments to him and adjustments would be made for the next meeting in April.

11. VOLUNTEER LIST

Ms. Rocco shared some ways that a volunteer database would be helpful for the Commission. Suggestions were made that we start creating a list and continue to solicit volunteers through various Village publications. Mr. Aikens suggested a regular column in the Rose Clippings that would encourage the community to provide feedback on various environmental issues. Ms. Cedillo agreed to include an article in the Rose Clippings and would encourage earth day participation through the solicitation of earth day ideas.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Rocco shared with the group the recent article in the TribLocal newspaper. All in all, she considered the article accurate and good coverage. Ms. Rocco also made mention of a program to take place at the Brookfield Library on March 30th at 7:00 p.m.

13. SUMMER MEETING SCHEDULE

Ms. Rocco gave the group early notice that she would be teaching a course all summer long and would benefit from changing the meeting time for the Commissions' meetings. The group agreed to come to the next meeting prepared to discuss dates and times for the summer season.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Rocco reported that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for April 21. If available, the next meeting would take place at the Library. If it was not available, it would be held at Village Hall, per usual. With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julia Cedillo, Assistant Village Manager