

Village of La Grange Park  
Cool Village Commission – Minutes  
Wednesday, June 20, 2012

The meeting of the La Grange Park Cool Village Commission was called to order at 7:13 p.m. on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at the La Grange Park Village Hall in La Grange Park, Illinois.

1. Call to Order  
Commission Chair Krista Grimm called the meeting to order. Members present included: Krista Grimm, Joe Parish, Sarah Cervak, and John Aikens. Donna Twickler, Ed Kram and David Mrazek were absent. Also present were Julia Cedillo, Village Staff Liaison and Brendan McLaughlin, Public Works Director.
2. Approval of Minutes  
Ms. Cervak made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Parish seconded and the motion passed.
3. Public Comment  
There was no public comment.
4. West Suburban Chamber of Commerce Green (WSCCI) Living Green Festival  
Ms. Cervak and Ms. Grimm hosted a table at the festival. Ms. Twickler also came to the event. It was sparsely attended, but CVC did get attendees to fill out an informal two question survey. 89 people responded to the survey. 28 were La Grange Park residents. The survey indicated people were most favorable (over 90%) toward reduced price energy efficient products, followed by rain gardens on public lands, purchasing renewable energy and creating public rooftop gardens (all around 80%). Increased watering restrictions fared slightly lower with 55% of residents supporting that idea. Only 50% of residents responding favored vehicle idling restrictions. A variety of responses were provided to the open ended question.
5. Public Feedback on Sustainability Plan Program Ideas  
The commission discussed the different surveys conducted by other communities. After discussion, it was decided to frame a survey around the categories used in our Sustainability Plan; Water, Land, Air, Energy and Lighting, Waste recycling and e-waste. Under each category a variety of options will be included with an ability to respond with currently doing, interested in doing, need more information, or not interested. Ms. Cervak agreed to prepare the initial format and everyone will give their ideas for items to place under each category.
6. Blogging on Patch

There was additional discussion related to whether the CVC should be spending time on this activity and if it would sustain itself over time. Mr. Paris thought it would be a good way to expose others to the green efforts being done by the village. In the end, it was decided that a survey should be sent out via e-mail to the CVC members and a list of ideas be compiled to kick off a brainstorm session at a future CVC meeting.

7. Fall Composter / Rain Barrel Sale

Ms. Grimm reported out that a vendor was contacted and they had done a sale for District 102. Essentially, a truck comes with 800 to 1,000 units. They need 8 volunteers from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 2,000 promotional cards are provided for distribution. Composters cost \$45.00 and Rain Barrels cost \$55.00, a kitchen collector costs \$7.000 and a turner costs \$15.00. A \$5,000 media budget is also provided. Prices could be slightly lower if the village performs the advertising. Their standard contract requires a minimum level of sales, but that is often struck from the contract.

It was decided that Ms. Grimm would follow up with the company for references and samples.

8. Results from Municipal Electric Aggregation

The Village Board selected First Energy Solutions to be the provider. It will be a two year term and the rate will drop from 7.89 cents per Kilowatt hour to 4.93 cents per kilowatt hour. The contract calls for 50% renewable energy. Transition is scheduled for September.

9. WCMC Regional Bike Planning

As a follow up from last meeting, Mr. McLaughlin followed up with WCMC to see how last year's survey was used. He was provided with an advanced copy of the new bike plan. The Executive Summary and a link to the full document was provided to the CVC.

10. Recycling in Public Area – information from Allied Waste

As a follow-up to last meeting, Mr. McLaughlin followed up with Allied Waste to gain their insights on recycling in public areas. It was discovered that few towns do it and the results have not always been great do to people disposing of trash in the recycling containers. The most logical locations for public recycling in La Grange Park are in the parks. The most logical products to recycle in that setting are cans and plastic bottles. It was recommended that a specialized receptacle be placed next to a standard garbage can. That is the best way to prevent contamination. The recycling container should only have a round hole on the top to slide cans and bottles. This is an idea that would have to be shared with the park district as they are the ones that would have to implement the program.

11. Zoning Regulations on Compost

As a follow-up to last meeting, Mr. McLaughlin provided copies of municipal regulations related to composting. The most significant included the zoning code which requires certain setbacks from the property line. The property maintenance code and municipal code both have sections related to nuisances that can be used in an effort to address those who compost poorly causing problems for their neighbors. It was reported that these instances are the exception.

12. Open Discussion

Ms. Cedillo reported that she had researched to find an electronics recycling company that would pay money to the Village. She was not able to find any. It was decided to continue with Vintage Recycling and continue to stress the need for good signage to make the event flow better. There was also interest in seeing if additional items could be accepted at the event for recycling.

13. Next Steps

Ms. Cedillo discussed that Mr. McLaughlin would be serving as the staff liaison to the CVC. She appreciated the experience of working with the CVC. She also passed out the CVC member background sheet and asked that members completed their sections.

14. Next Meeting Date

It was decided that the next meeting date would be Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Library.

15. Adjournment

Mr. Paris moved and Ms. Cervak seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Motion was approved.