

Village of Lombard

*Village Hall
255 East Wilson Ave.
Lombard, IL 60148
villageoflombard.org*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 24, 2009

7:30 PM

Village Hall Community Room

Environmental Concerns Committee

*Trustee Dana Moreau-Chairperson
Trustee Laura Fitzpatrick-Co-Chairperson
Clark Adams, Jennifer Jendras, Winnie Lyons,
Nancy Schukat, Darlene Bartt
Jason Cooper and Stefano Durdic
Staff Liaison: Dave Gorman*

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dana Moreau at 7:30 pm.

Present: Dana Moreau, Winnie Lyons, Clark Adams, Darlene Bartt, Jason Cooper and Stefano Durdic

Absent: Jennifer Jendras and Nancy Schukat

2.0 Public Participation

None

3.0 Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Lyons, seconded by Adams, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 27, 2009. The motion carried by a voice vote.

4.0 Unfinished Business

090676

Recycling Education Grant, Montini Catholic High School

Request in the amount of \$2,500.00.

Bartt stated she felt Montini was being aggressive with their environmental programs and that they were very responsive in getting back to the committee. She felt they had accomplished a lot.

Durdic spoke regarding composting and the indicated uses of the compost such as being given to staff members for their own use. He questioned using public funds for this program and then giving the compost to staff members.

Lyons felt this was a minor point and the compost would be used in various ways as stated in the letter presented by Montini. She felt as long as the compost was not wasted, the program should be approved.

It was moved by Cooper, seconded by Lyons, to approve. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Lyons, Adams, Cooper, Bartt and Durdic

Absent: 2 - Jendras and Schukat

050616

Solid Waste Contract - Update

Gorman gave an overview of the report prepared by Waste Management. The report addressed the volume of refuse, recycling and yard waste collected. He noted the percentage is about the same as previous years. Chairperson Moreau questioned Waste Management's records and indicated she was suspicious of the same percentages. Cooper questioned if Waste Management provides proof of collection by providing tickets. Gorman answered that the Village had not requested tickets from Waste Management. He reported that Waste Management pays the Village a service

fee based on accounts. He noted staff will look at this when reviewing the contract with Waste Management in the future.

Adams asked if there were options to extend or renew the existing contract. Gorman answered that there is a two-year option. He went on to tell the committee that staff does not receive very many complaints about the service. If a complaint is received, Waste Management is very prompt in addressing the complaint. He felt they provided very good customer service. Durdic questioned if there were other vendors. Gorman indicated there were, but Waste Management has been the provider in Lombard for many years. The contract is not currently based on volume and has incentives for recycling. The toter is a flat fee. Cooper asked if the fee to the Village fluctuates. Gorman responded that the fee does not fluctuate and the Village is paid based on the number of accounts. Chairperson Moreau asked if there were other reports available from Waste Management showing volume. Gorman answered that there is an annual report and he can provide a copy to the committee. Chairperson Moreau noted that the percentages were about the same each year since 2006 although larger bins being used. Cooper stated the accounts had not changed. Gorman explained that annexations occur and bring in additional homes.

Cooper commented that he often does not have enough room in the toter for recycling and is forced to put recyclables in with the refuse. Gorman explained that additional recycling can be placed out for pick up as long as it is marked as recycling. Chairperson Moreau did not think residents were aware of that.

Cooper commented that Waste Management is required to keep road tickets on collections and these can be audited. Gorman said he will request Jim Karls of Waste Management to come to the next meeting and to bring documentation on collections.

Cooper asked about the history of the contract. Lyons responded that the contract was for four years and that the committee had reviewed other contractors before recommending a contract with Waste Management. She felt that Waste Management did more and charged less. She also felt that they were always there when a crisis arose such as flooding and storms and were willing to do additional pick-ups with no questions asked. Cooper asked if the committee reviews the contract yearly. Gorman replied that the committee is reviews the contract and makes recommendations that are then referred to the Village Board.

Durdic stated that he has an issue with Jim Karls sitting at the table with the committee members as he is an employee of Waste Management. He further commented that Mr. Karls gets involved in conversations regarding various topics. He felt that Jim Karls should sit in the audience and if the committee wanted him to be invited to sit with them, they could do that. Chairperson Moreau asked if there was a benefit for Jim Karls to be at the meetings. Gorman did not think Mr. Karls would be offended by being asked to sit in the audience and that he was there to answer questions and address concerns of the committee. Lyons added that she felt that he was the liaison between the Village and Waste Management and that he acted in a professional manner. Bartt questioned if the meetings were public. Gorman indicated, yes. Further discussion regarding Jim Karls attendance and seating at future meetings ensued.

070424 **Clean Air Counts**

Gorman spoke regarding the Clean Air Counts Program and stressed the importance of clean air inside homes and offices. He stated factoids will be included in the Lombard PRIDE newsletter to help educate residents. He stressed the importance of the Village being certified.

5.0 New Business

090764 **Sustainability Plan**

Discussion to define the purpose and scope.

Gorman spoke regarding the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and the Cool Cities Program that the Village Board had adopted. As part of these, the committee will oversee creation of a Sustainability Plan which will also include staff participation. He stated when the committee looks at the Sustainability Plan, they will see that a lot of these things fit together. He stated this is a fluid document and will be constantly changing as the committee and staff work on the plan. Chairperson Moreau asked how long the committee will be looking at the plan. Gorman answered that there are short term and long term goals and objectives. He noted that Downers Grove had one of the best plans. Chairperson Moreau asked if Villa Park had a plan. Gorman replied that he did not believe so.

Gorman explained that the Village had not budgeted for a consultant so the work will be done in-house. The Santa Barbara plan was very successful. He noted possible resources and partners to assist with the plan, such as Orland Park and ComEd.

Chairperson Moreau questioned components of the plan. Gorman responded that some residents are very concerned about light pollution. He met with a resident who was outraged by his neighbor's garage light. Also, street lights and illumination levels could be addressed. Lights are currently being designed for the Great Western Trail, which will likely be LED and on a timer so as not to be on all night. Lyons spoke regarding a neighbor's very bright spotlight in their backyard that she can see from her home. Gorman responded that there is a maximum foot candle measurement and a light meter can be used to check this.

Cooper spoke about possible grant opportunities for projects. Chairperson Moreau asked that any information be forwarded to Dave Gorman. Gorman said that he can write the bulk of the grant proposals, but that a specialized grant writer could help with the level of complexity. Cooper concurred.

Gorman spoke regarding the Climate Action Plans done by consultants. Cooper spoke regarding an outline or a Request for Proposal structure for the document. He noted there is a huge range from a paragraph to a chapter. Assistant Public Works Director Gorman stated Downers Grove did a nice job at being concise, but that some other reports are 200 pages long. Chairperson Moreau asked if Downers Grove had a consultant or if they did the report in-house. Gorman thought they had a consultant.

Chairperson Moreau suggested looking at sample plans and plan components.

Gorman added that schools can be good partners and spoke on how the schools took the anti-idling program and ran with it. Chairperson Moreau also suggested the Park District.

Stefano Durdic questioned why schools were good partners. Gorman explained that parents read all of the information that is sent home in the back packs with students. One example is when the Village announced Walk to School Day and encouraged participation, the schools promoted the program and were waiting to thank people for walking to school.

6.0 Other Business

Gorman shared that he recently attended a conference at Columbia College and the Green Town Program. He spoke about the need for a national electric transmission grid to transmit electricity from solar farms and to prevent region-wide black-outs. He stated we do not now have such a system that can sense black-outs. He also spoke about each home someday having a smart system that will save energy and money by being able to be programmed to run appliances when electricity is less expensive. He stated that a residential geographic carbon footprint was done of Santa Barbara and this shows what it takes to support the community.

7.0 Information Only

- Proposed Lilac Bikeway

Gorman spoke regarding the proposed Lilac Bikeway that was approved by the Board. He noted that \$78,000 was needed for sidewalks, plantings and street signage. Durdic asked if it will involve constructing a separate bicycle lane. Gorman responded that it will not. Lyons asked about grants. Gorman answered that they will be looking at grants. Lyons asked if it will connect with the Prairie Path. Gorman replied that the path is a 13-mile loop that will cross both paths. You will never get lost as you can ride around the path until you are back where you started. Durdic suggested more bike paths.

- Recycling Recession Article

- DuPage Water Commission WCAPP Newsletter

8.0 Adjournment

The regular meeting of the Environmental Concerns Committee held on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 in the Community Room was adjourned at 8:48 pm.

It was moved by Lyons, seconded by Bartt, adjourn. The motion carried by a voice vote