

# **Village of Lombard**

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



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 26, 2010**

**7:30 PM**

**Lorraine G. Gerhardt 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, Stefano Durdic and Diana Urlaub  
Staff Liaison: Dave Gorman*

1.0 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

*The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Moreau at 7:30 p.m.*

2.0 Roll Call

**Present:** Dana Moreau, Diana Urlaub, Winnie Lyons, Jennifer Jendras, Nancy Schukat, Clark Adams, Darlene Bartt and Jason Cooper

**Absent:** Stefano Durdic

*Staff Present:*

*Dave Gorman, Asst. Director of Public Works  
Paul Kuehnlenz, Public Works*

*Others Present:*

*Jim Karls, Waste Management*

3.0 Public Participation

*Emily Prasad, 340 W. Maple Street, Lombard  
Lee Stahl, 440 E. Maple Street, Lombard  
John Emrult, 4979 RFD, Long Grove*

4.0 Approval of Minutes

**It was moved by Lyons, seconded by Adams, to approve the Minutes of the September 28, 2010, meeting. The motion carried by a voice vote**

*Chairperson Moreau rearranged the agenda to accommodate the residents in attendance.*

**100601**

**Proposal to Allow Chickens in Residential Areas**

Discussion regarding allowing chickens to be kept within the Village limits. (DISTRICTS - ALL)

*Ms. Prasad spoke on behalf of a group called CLUC. The group has about 110 members. She explained that they are approaching the committee to ask for support in bringing changes to an ordinance to allow small flocks of hens in Lombard. There are a lot of benefits that chickens can offer a community.*

*Ms. Prasad went on to say that people are very concerned about safe and affordable food, they eat insect pests and weeds and a lot of people consider them engaging pets. Any concerns can be adequately addressed by existing ordinances. Some people are concerned about noise which can be addressed by not allowing roosters. The chickens are not as loud as dogs which are regulated through the noise ordinance. People are also concerned about sanitation, however, we're talking about small flocks not farms. Others are concerned about diseases, but there is really not a concern about that with small flocks.*

*Ms. Prasad also said that the group has a petition with over 140 signatures, so there does seem to be community support. That isn't saying all of these people intend to keep chickens, but a lot of people are saying they don't have a problem with it. The group is asking for the Committee's support in moving the issue forward.*

*Lyons asked what is considered a flock. Ms. Prasad explained that because chickens are social, you have to have at least two, but would say between two and eight. Jendras asked what the intent of changing the ordinance is, to have the hens as pets or livestock. Ms. Prasad answered that they are pets, but they do provide a valuable product, the eggs. Jendras asked what would happen once the chickens don't produce eggs anymore. If they were going to slaughter them are there places that do that or would be people be doing that in their yards. Ms. Prasad explained that there are licensed and regulated facilities in the city where that can be done.*

*Jendras asked if the Committee recommended it would they need to know if it was for livestock or pets. Gorman explained that ECC will not make a recommendation to the Board, only needs to agree its viable. It is really a Plan Commission issue and some of these issues would still have to be hashed out.*

*Urlaub asked about the housing for the hens. Ms. Prasad responded they can stay out in our climate in secure predator-proof coops, however, some people do provide a bulb.*

*Cooper commented on how it has been brought up several times how critical local agriculture is. Relying on industrial agriculture causes a lot of our problems, air quality, water quality, etc. Allowing residents to keep a limited number of hens is in keeping with that.*

*Bartt asked if predators are a concern. Mr. Stahl explained that the coyote and fox population is already high, chickens are not going to change that. The populations are actually higher in suburban areas than more rural areas because we've created so many artificial habitats that are conducive to their well being. Coops will not increase the population in any particular area because they are territorial. They can not afford to have other animals move into their turf and compete with them. As it is, roughly 90% don't make it to six years, three years is average. Competition is really rough. Fox and coyote are here and here to stay and having a few chickens in a predator proof enclosure is not going to increase the population. Lyons commented that raccoons can eat through the garbage cans, what would stop them from getting in. Mr. Stahl answered that you would use a heavy gauge wire. (Mr. Stahl passed out designs on predator-proof coops to the committee.) Ms. Prasad added that a lot of the things people are concerned will be problem are already issues that we're dealing with. Jendras added that she is concerned about the people who think its cool and then find out its a lot of work and they abandon the chickens. Lyons commented that chickens do smell no matter what and people don't even take care of their landscaping. She also questioned if the village would have to hire staff to inspect the coops.*

*Cooper mentioned that West Dundee is approving an ordinance and Downers Grove has an ordinance. West Dundee is permitting their chickens, that's something that the Village could consider. It's a way for the Village to keep track and follow-up. West Dundee limits the size to 15 lbs or less. Mr. Emrult explained that the hens that lay eggs are not bred to be big like a meat chicken. He went on to say that he is also concerned with the environment and supports local agriculture. For some people its an environmental issue, for a lot of people its a health issue. You can't get this product from the store. The nutritional product that you get from these eggs because the chickens run around and eat bugs and grass, is totally different. For some people it's a moral issue; people don't want to support industrial agriculture.*

*Jendras asked what symptoms birds have that have salmonella. Mr. Stahl responded that they can have diarrhea and it can run through pretty fast, but it's usually in the bigger farms. He also went on to say that you can have salmonella in the wild geese, turtles, etc. However, you're not going to get salmonella if you wash your hands and cook your food all the way. It's just a matter of being hygienic.*

*Cooper stated that right now as a village we're saying you have to eat eggs from the industry or you don't eat eggs. How can we force our residents to support an industry (reference to Food, Inc.) like that when there is a viable alternative. He went on to say that he did not think we can ignore the issues of industrial agriculture. Chairperson Moreau reminded the committee that if something is passed and is not working it can be changed.*

*Gorman explained to the committee that the procedure that the Village would go through is ECC would make a recommendation to the Plan Commission and they would hold a full hearing. Their recommendation would go to the Board. The decision the committee has to make tonight is if there is interest, not interested, or interested but would like to see specific language. If the committee is interested and would like to see specific language, could direct staff to do a staff report and draft language. The committee asked for Staff to provide a memo with proposed language.*

5.0 Unfinished Business

**050616**

**Current Solid Waste Contract - Update**

*Karls reviewed the handout. Refuse is going down and recycling is up. Yard waste is up most likely because of the weather we've had the past few months.*

*Karls explained that Lombard's waste goes to a transfer station in Elk Grove Village or Northlake and then to Davis Junction. The recyclables all go to Carol Stream. Gorman asked if there is anything in the works for restaurant food waste. Karls answered that there is, but he does not yet have the details.*

*A discussion ensued regarding visiting the Carol Stream facility. Some of the committee members expressed interest in going.*

6.0 New Business

**100600**

**LED Exit Sign Replacement Program**

Staff recommendation for approval of a proposed partnership with e-One.

*Gorman reviewed the program. This company will switch out standard exit signs to signs with LED bulbs, which use very little power. The payback period is 10.8 months. There's no cost to the Village, we would just publicize it.*

**It was moved by Schukat, seconded by Lyons, to approve. The motion carried by a voice vote**

**100610**

**Recycling Education Grant Program**

Discussion regarding budget issues.

*Gorman reviewed the memo. Chairperson Moreau reminded the committee that the money from Waste Management can only be used to support programs that keep materials out of landfills. There was a consensus among the committee members to wait and move the funds at a later date if needed.*

**100602**

**Recycling Education Grant, Glenbard East High School**

Recommendation from the Environmental Concerns Committee to approve a request in the amount of \$350.00. (DISTRICT #2)

**It was moved by Bartt, seconded by Adams, that this matter be recommended to the Board of Trustees for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote**

**100603**

**Recycling Education Grant, Glenn Westlake Middle School**

A request in the amount of \$714.03.

*Adams pointed out that they are ordering six cans and 12 lids. He also pointed out that the recyclables don't need to be separated because Waste Management picks it up commingled materials. Jendras suggested that they may be separating to draw more attention to the materials.*

**It was moved by Urlaub, seconded by Bartt, that this matter be recommended to the Board of Trustees for approval at the lower amount should the number of lids be incorrect. The motion carried by a voice vote**

**100604**

**Recycling Education Grant, Manor Hill**

A request in the amount of \$4,459.87.

*Jendras pointed out that the book is for ages 4-7 so she is not sure 4th and 5th graders would value it. She also suggested that they just buy one for each classroom and a couple for the library. Cooper added that there needs to be more benefit than just those particular kids. If they are purchased for the classrooms, then more children will benefit.*

**It was moved by Jendras, seconded by Lyons, that this matter be recommended to the Board of Trustees for approval in the amount of \$340.00 or 20 books, whichever is less. The motion carried by a voice vote**

**100605**

**Recycling Education Grant, Montini Catholic High School**

A request in the amount of \$2,500.00.

*Jendras pointed out that there are budgetary constraints and Montini has received many grants already. Cooper commented that the requested use of funds is not really focused on recycling. Gorman said he will suggest they focus more on recycling programs and landfill diversion.*

**It was moved by Jendras, seconded by Cooper, that this matter be denied. The motion carried by a voice vote**

**100606**

**Recycling Education Grant, Pleasant Lane**

Recommendation from the Environmental Concerns Committee to approve a request in the amount of \$650.00. (DISTRICT #4)

**It was moved by Bartt, seconded by Jendras, that this matter be recommended to the Board of Trustees for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote**

7.0 Other Business

*Chairperson Moreau reminded the committee that previously they had discussed an award or recognition for businesses or individuals. Urlaub commented that City of Chicago has an award. It actually has several categories. Chairperson Moreau asked Karls if Waste Management might be interested in co-sponsoring such an award. Karls said he would mention it. Urlaub will write up a proposal. Jendras suggested that there could be a downtown business category.*

**100609 Next Meeting Date**

*There was a consensus to hold the November meeting as scheduled and cancel the December meeting.*

8.0 Information Only

**100607 Mosquito Abatement Program Update**

**100608 Trib Local Article - Oak Park Recycling**

9.0 Adjournment

**It was moved by Bartt, seconded by Cooper, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m. The motion carried by a voice vote**