

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

First Floor Conference Room
53 South La Grange Road
La Grange, IL 60525

Thursday, April 11, 2019 — 7:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Environmental Quality Commission of the Village of La Grange was held on Thursday, April 11, 2019, at the Village Hall and was called to order by Commission Chair David McCarty at 7:05 p.m.

Commissioner	Present	Absent
Joel Baise	X	
Laurie Braun	X	
David Bryant	X	
Linda Christianson	X	
Rebecca Davies	X	
Mary Gertsmeier	X	
David McCarty - Chair	X	
Rose Naseef – Vice Chair		X
William Robison	X	
Tim Sheldon	X	

9 of 10 members constitutes a quorum.

ALSO PRESENT: Bruce Whiteway, La Grange resident

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Gertsmeier, seconded by Commissioner Davies to approve the minutes from March 14, 2019.

The minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.

3. BUSINESS AT HAND

- A. Report, Commission Chair McCarty regarding E.Q.C. open positions & chair position – Village President Livingston is working to fill the 5 vacant positions on the Commission. New members are expected to be in place for the May meeting. In conjunction with that and on the approximate same schedule Commission Chair McCarty will resign and Commission Vice Chair Naseef will be appointed as the new Commission Chair. Until the appointments are complete and approved by the Village Board Commission Chair McCarty will remain.
- B. Discussion led by Commissioner Gertsmeier regarding short-term projects and goals – Commissioner Gertsmeier has identified several possibilities for projects. These are generally small in scale & scope. The goal is to increase resident participation and awareness in how little things can make a difference. Many will also leverage off events or programs of local groups.

Some short-term possibilities for cooperation and co-sponsorship include:

- The Western Springs Styrofoam recycling project
- The Brookfield Zoo recycling event

Opportunities for cooperation and information exchange:

- Adjacent communities' environmental commissions
- Environmental or green living components of local church and school groups. Commissioner Bryant offered to begin compiling a list of local groups.
- Programs like SolSmart and Greenest Region Compact

Possible initiatives for the La Grange E.Q.C.

- Work in cooperation with the La Grange Garden Club to recognize environmentally friendly yards or gardens. Perhaps one per quarter recognizing different aspects of a green landscape. Things like rain gardens, native species, draught resistant and no-water gardens, etc. The E.Q.C. could work with the Garden Club to highlight one home each quarter and post it on the Village web site. Commissioner Gertsmeier will contact the Garden Club to discuss the opportunity.
- Similar to the gardens concept, work with the Economic Development Department, local architects, and local home builders to recognize green home improvements, designs or energy saving living concepts. These would also be highlighted on the Village web site.
- Develop periodic challenges or contests to promote a specific green concept. Some ideas offered included:
 - earth-friendly ways to stay cool in the summer