



**MORTON GROVE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
AGENDA AND MEETING NOTICE**

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2024 6:00 P.M.

MORTON GROVE CIVIC CENTER

6140 DEMPSTER STREET, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of – September 16, 2024
3. PROGRAMS & EVENTS
 - a. **Winter Adopt a Planter Assignment**
 - i. Assignments distributed November 20, 2024
 - ii. Volunteers needed to deliver kits
 - b. **2025 Resident Handbook**
 - i. Submit updates and revisions by December 1
4. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Review Survey Results
 - b. Discuss 2025 Program/Events; Discuss Dates

Program/Event	Dates	Comments/notes
Photo Contest	Summer	CRC to solicit participants and choose winners
Summer Adopt a Planter	May/June	CRC to solicit participants help with signage and distribute plants
Neighborhood Outreach	3x/yr TBD	Act as host/greeter
Outstanding Neighbor Recognition	As needed	CRC to solicit and choose honorees
Community Garage Sale	June 6-8	CRC to promote participation and assemble and distribute signage
Winter Adopt a Planter	Nov-March	CRC to promote event
2025 Resident Handbook	Ongoing	CRC to provide updates

5. OTHER BUSINESS
 - a. 2025 Meetings:
 - 3rd Monday of Odd Months (Jan., March, May, July, Sept., Nov.)
 - No Meetings to be held in February, April, June, August, & October.
 - b. Next Meeting: January 20, 2025, 6:30pm
6. AUDIENCE COMMENTS
7. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2024
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING
MORTON GROVE VILLAGE HALL – 6101 CAPULINA AVE
MORTON GROVE, IL 60053**

Pursuant to proper notice in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Theresa Polyak who led the assemblage in the pledge of allegiance. In attendance were:

Members: Theresa Polyak, Laurie Katz, Patrick Baldwin, Robert Burkhart, Mohammed Farooqui, Ginny Ching-Yin Lo, Katherine Yi, Janice Cha, Kristey Chalabi

Absent: Gladys Rosas, Lisa Khabeer

Village Staff : Trustee Connie Travis, Corporation Counsel Teresa Hoffman Liston

Chairperson Polyak asked for approval of minutes for May 20, 2024. Motion made by Commissioner Cha and seconded by Commissioner Ching-Yin Lo. Minutes approved unanimously via voice vote.

Chairperson Polyak began the meeting going over programs and events.

- **Summer Photo Contest:** Commissioners were asked to vote for the winner. Trustee Travis introduced the photos with the most votes for the commission to select the top winners. The Commission selected 5 winners.
- **Neighborhood Outreach:** The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 17, 2024, at Parkview School.

Chairperson Polyak asked for volunteers to sign up to be at the welcome table.

- **Summer Adopt a Planter:** Terry Liston gave a report on summer planters. The program was very positive, and plants blossomed nicely over the season.
- **Winter Adopt a Planter:** Plant pick up will be November 23, 2024. Volunteers will also be needed to put together and distribute these kits.

Terry Liston asked the commissioner what they would prefer for the winter program. There was positive feedback for the winter plants kits and trees. Commissioners were asked to think about if they want to have the same mix of trees and winter kits or change anything.

- **Resident Handbook:** Chairperson Polyak asked all the commissioners to submit any updates for the 2025 handbook.
- **Community Block Party:** Commissioner Baldwin shared his experience of hosting a block party over the summer. His experience was positive and learned many lessons on how to make things better if he does it again. The block party kit was very helpful.
- **Free Little Library:** The structure is well maintained and managed by the library. Commissioner Burkhart took some time to visit and clean and provide maintenance for it. He said children's books are needed.
- **Outstanding Neighbor:** No new nominations.

After reviewing agenda items, Chairperson Polyak asked if there was any other business the commission wanted to discuss?

Two items were addressed:

1. Commissioner Cha brought up a concern from residents regarding the closing down of a local coffee shop, Super Cup due to the building it is a tenant of being shut down by the Village. She asked what the Village is doing to help this business.

Terry Liston made note that although this is not a CRC issue, she is happy to address some of the rumors going around. This property was damaged in a fire over three years ago. The Village has been working with the property owner since to help them get the building back in shape and up to code standard for its safety and for the safety of its tenants. Due to financial hardships, the property owner has not been able to fix the building to code standards and has been going back and forth with the Village over the years making small improvements but not enough to deem the property safe. After many warnings and notices over the years with little to no progress, the Village had to take more serious action against the property owner by revoking occupancy of the premise. It was not a step the Village wanted to take but we had no choice after the property was deemed unsafe by our inspectors. The Village is still working closely with the property owner to get them into compliance so their tenants can all return to their spaces as soon as possible.

Commissioner Cha appreciated the information and hopes the Village can do more for the small business that had to shut down due to this.

2. Commission members asked for updates on Pride Month 2025.

At the last CRC meetings, Trustee Travis brought up that she spoke with residents who have an interest in learning more about what the Village plans to do for Pride Month. Terry Liston mentioned that the Village will be meetings with a group of residents who have ideas in the coming weeks. She mentioned that the Village will not be hosting events but will support any organization that wants to host events.

Commissioner Ching-Yin Lo wanted to know exactly what support the CRC would provide. Terry mentioned that things are still in the planning process, and we don't have enough information on what the needs will be for something like this. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

With no further business, Chairperson Polyak adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Motion was made by Commissioner Cha and seconded by Commissioner Chalabi.

Minutes By

Saba Koya