



A Greendale Call to Service

Ask Village residents "What makes Greendale special?" and they will likely tell you that it's the unique quality of life that we enjoy in our special community. These basic essentials come in a variety of forms

and are as diverse and varied as the residents who seek them. But from my perspective the one element that always exists in great municipalities is the volume and consistency of community volunteerism. Almost always, a municipality that consistently provides a high quality of life standard will have a great pool of volunteers who carry on those standards behind the scenes.

While Greendale is and has been teeming with volunteers throughout its existence, consider those who we may be taking for granted or may not see. Consider all the volunteers serving within the roles of government, schools, churches, organizations, scout troops, sports teams and leagues, homeowner/neighborhood organizations, etc. The list goes on and on. These volunteers are often your friends and neighbors. Ironically, more often than not, they are generally very busy in their own lives but still manage to give of their time and assistance when asked.

Time and again when ordinary people act together they can make a huge difference in our community. It does not matter how or where you choose to get involved, just get involved. We have many current and future challenges in our community that require individuals to step forward to serve and participate in our continuing pursuit of community greatness. Our present quality of life standards were not realized without the strong and persistent acts of dedicated volunteers, and Greendale will never be able to sustain these high quality standards in the future without the efforts of a new and motivated generation of visionary community servants.

President Obama recently made a national call to service. He understands our country's reliance on community volunteerism. "In America," he has said, "each of us is free to seek our own dreams, but we must also serve a common purpose, a higher purpose... Because, when it comes to the challenges we face, the American people are not the problem — they are the answer."

This statement highlights our President's belief that "government depends not just on the consent of the governed, but on the service of citizens."

The current economic downturn has all of us concerned about how we should personally react and question what measures our government should endorse in order to deal with the days ahead. Optimistically, we can be certain that many great opportunities will arise and present us with many new and exciting occasions to

improve the ways in which we do things, both in our country and in our community. Will you challenge yourself to be included in building these new opportunities that will advance Greendale to an even higher level of greatness?

Martin Luther King said, "The ultimate measure of a man or woman is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

So, residents of Greendale, this is my call to you. Included below is a list of all the Village's government chartered committees. Appointments to these committees are made by the Village President and where required, are affirmed by the Village Board of Trustees.

"When ordinary people act together, they make a huge difference in our community."

Currently the biggest need is for volunteers to serve on the Public Celebrations Committee, but all of our committees need a pool of interested individuals who are willing to serve when needed. My hope

is that you find a committee that interests you. If so, you can email (or regular mail) a letter of interest to Village Manager Todd Michaels through our Village website (www.greendale.org) or you can call him at 423-2100. Please be prepared to provide your name, address, contact information and interested committee assignment. Your community needs and appreciates your help!

Community regards,
John R. Hermes
Village President

Greendale Government Committees

Board of Tax Review - Functions similar to a court; is responsible for correcting errors of under or over-assessments of property.

Plan Commission - Considers matters regarding the physical development of the Village such as site development, conditional use, planned unit development, re-zoning, etc.

Police and Fire Commission - Considers matters involving personnel of the Police and Fire departments.

Library Board - Develops policies that govern the procedures of all aspects of Library operations.

Building Board - Considers applications for building permits involving new construction or extensive renovations.

Park and Recreation - An advisory

committee involved in planning and coordinating park and recreation programs and activities.

Public Celebrations - Is responsible for or arranging, planning, organizing, coordinating and reviewing all Village holidays and public celebrations.

Zoning Board of Appeals - Considers appeals of administrative interpretations of the zoning code.

Historical Commission - Coordinates, preserves and cares for all records and any other materials of historic interest of the Village.

Board of Health - Advises on policies and procedures for the health department.

Community Development Authority - Advises and plans for urban renewal and community development programs and projects as well as housing projects in the Village of Greendale.

