

Part 1: Contact Information

Eric Grenier

Applying for Village Board of Trustees

Part 2: Application Information for Publishing

1) *Why do you wish to serve on this board?*

When our young family moved here in 1994 we already knew Lake Bluff was a great community. Today, Lake Bluff is even better for families and boasts a more vibrant downtown, better roads and sidewalks, more volunteers, and an even greater sense of community.

My desire for reelection is primarily to continue to be a part of implementing our vision for the future, in particular developing our business district in a way that contributes positively to the community while preserving our unique character. My hope is to contribute to a legacy that makes us proud of what we accomplished and grateful for what we preserved. It is also important that our children grow up appreciating what was done instead of asking why it wasn't.

2) *What strengths, skills, and personal attributes will you bring to this board position?*

After 25 years of working for large public and private medical device companies, including an overseas assignment, I am now an owner and CEO of a small medical device manufacturing company. I also served 8 years on the Lake Bluff School Board during development of Lake Bluff Elementary School. I have learned to balance both short- and long-term objectives, work with ambiguous and contradictory inputs, and take time to understand requirements. I highly value setting clear goals and providing opportunities for every citizen to contribute constructively to important village initiatives.

Being on the Village Board has reinforced for me the value of following our established processes, evaluating opportunities without emotion, and developing consensus. I value my relationships with members of the community who have taken time to give feedback over the years, even negative (despite the discomfort I may have felt while receiving it).

3) *What do you see as the most pressing issues facing this board?*

- Planning for potential changes to sales tax allocations and pension obligation rules.

- Promoting development to further energize our downtown while remaining consistent with scale and historic appearance.
- Investing in technology to reduce energy use and records-management costs, shared initiatives and contracts with other village entities, and participating in municipal consortiums to consolidate operating expenses.
- Promoting development of more housing options to appeal to a broader spectrum of property owners.
- Implementing environmental sustainability projects including enhanced waste management and energy conservation.
- Long-term investing in improved water runoff and water treatment.
- Promoting West-side business district development.

4) *With what decision or goal reached by this board are you most pleased, and why?*

It has been a privilege to be able to contribute to Lake Bluff - a haven for those who appreciate its eclectic history and sense of common purpose. It is also a community that never sits still. Attracting new entities while maintaining what attracted us all here in the first place means engaging with those who wish to invest here. I am most proud of our on-going efforts to clarify rules and provide effective feedback more efficiently. With recent approval of a Planned Mixed-use Development Ordinance, an initiative begun soon after completing the Target Stores project, we've provided more guidance for future development ideas. Combined with zoning ordinances, investors have a clearer idea of what is needed to win our collective approval.

Block 3 proposals reviewed this past year have revealed opportunities for us to improve how we engage the community when evaluating new opportunities. It is a priority for me to find ways to improve upon those processes and upon community confidence in them. Residents must feel they are being listened to when new proposals are being considered, as it should also be for new investors seeking understanding and occasional flexibility where it can be granted. This improves our chances for attracting better projects more likely to satisfy our long-term objectives.