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**Nomination of new trustee to come Monday night**

Village President David Pope will nominate former Plan Commission Chair Colette Lueck to fill the remainder of the term of Trustee Ernest J. Moore, Jr. who is resigning to pursue a professional opportunity in Texas. Pope said he will formally submit Lueck's nomination for a vote at the Board meeting scheduled for Monday.

"Colette has the experience and knowledge to seamlessly step into the role of Trustee at a time when the Village Board is facing multiple decisions on issues of significant importance to the community," Pope said. "As a long-time Oak Park resident, former Chair of the Plan Commission and 2007 Volunteer of the Year with a remarkable record of service to the community, Colette's background will allow her to contribute meaningfully to important Board deliberations from the moment she is confirmed."

Lueck, whose formal training and professional experience is primarily in the areas of child psychology and social work, has held a wide range of senior management positions, with responsibilities including strategic planning, budgeting and allocating resources, all areas that are particularly valuable in fulfilling the responsibilities of a Village Trustee, according to Pope.

"Our community is facing a number of important issues that will require a full complement of members of the Village Board in order to ensure that any decisions that are made reflect the long-term best interests of the entire community," he said.

"This is particularly the case concerning issues of planning and development, where Colette brings strong expertise. With only nine months remaining in this term, it is important that I nominate and that we confirm as Trustee a person who is already familiar with many of the important issues that we will be facing in the coming weeks and months.

"Given her wealth of knowledge from her recent leadership of the Plan Commission and her other significant community involvements, Colette is likely better equipped than anyone to step into this role."

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Pope expressed regret at the resignation of Moore, but said he completely understood the decision given the opportunity to chair the speech and hearing sciences department at the University of North Texas. As a professor at Northwestern University, Moore was leading research efforts in the area of overcoming hearing loss.

"Ernest's service as a Trustee over the past year provided important insights and contributions on a number of issues faced by the Board," Pope said. "Serving on the Village Board is a time-consuming and often thankless job, but that service also is an important element that helps to make Oak Park the uniquely special community that we all appreciate. I am deeply grateful to Ernest for his service to the community, and I congratulate him on his new role with the University of North Texas. I know that our entire community extends to him our very best wishes as he begins this new chapter in his life.

"Here in Oak Park, we will continue to address the important issues that face us as a community. To do that properly we need a full Board of Trustees. With Colette's nomination, I believe that we have the opportunity to confirm an individual who clearly has much to offer as well as a willingness to contribute and serve."

Lueck, a licensed clinical social worker, has degrees from the University of Illinois, the University of Chicago and the University of Wisconsin. She has been involved as a volunteer in a wide range of community groups and organizations, including both Oak Park school districts. As chair of the Plan Commission from 2000 – 2006, she oversaw the public discussion of many of the community's largest and most complex development projects.

If approved by the Village Board to fulfill the unexpired term of Moore, Lueck would serve as Trustee until the April 2009 municipal election.

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