

## Northfield Village Caucus

July 30, 2013

The meeting was called to order at Clarkson Park located in Northfield IL by Tracey Mendrek, Chair at **7:02** pm.

Caucus Members present at the meeting were:

Jennifer Bishop-Jenkins	John Kemper
Ken Bley	Ruth Lucchesi
Tom Bolling	Tracey Mendrek
Ken Bond	Bobbie Moore
Frank Charhut	Jerry Mulick
Al Chircop	Patrick O'Donoghue
Dave Detlefsen	Tom Pick
Jonathan Don	Keith Reed
Kathy Estabrooke	Tom Terrill
Bill Gould	Cricket Trutter-Hauff
Bettina Karlove	David Woodyatt

Guest: Rebecca Wolff – Director - Winnetka/Northfield Library

Tracey welcomed all of us and asked us to introduce ourselves to Rebecca. Tracey presented the agenda. Bobbie Moore moved to approve, Ruth Lucchesi seconded. Agenda was unanimously approved. Tracey then presented the minutes from the previous meeting. Al Chircop moved to approve, Cricket Trutter-Hauff seconded. Agenda unanimously approved.

Next order of business is to learn more about our Library system. Rebecca began by telling us she served as Assistant Director of the Deerfield Library prior to her appointment in Winnetka. She is very happy to be here. The Winnetka/Northfield Library system has two exceptional buildings and a great mission statement:

*The Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District is dedicated to providing access to materials and services to meet the informational, cultural and educational needs of every resident in the District.*

Rebecca is currently assessing the facilities, signage and collections. They are specifically assessing space at both facilities.

She reminded us that we can buy books at a store, or online. The reason we go to the library is for their expertise.

They are specifically looking at the teen population. Teens need place to study and a way to engage with staff and not necessarily at the facilities. However, they're getting more teens so they moved their space.

They are looking at bridging the gap between hardcover and digital. The library is currently expanding their digital offerings. They have new digital creation stations, where you can make movies, burn cd's etc. They are working on their website in conjunction with social media.

An e-book platform (3M Cloud) along with My Media Mall will be introduced in September which will be exclusive to Winnetka/Northfield. They will be buying based on our community's wants and needs. The collection includes children's books as well. They will be adding 25 new magazine titles to their current subscription of 65 titles.

All e-book subscriptions can be downloaded to your phone, tablet or pc:

- ❖ e-Magazine downloads are yours to keep
- ❖ audio (MP3) downloads are 14 day
- ❖ e-book downloads are 14 days

Bill Gould asked if you search for a title, will it tell you all the formats it's available in. Rebecca said it would.

September 1<sup>st</sup> they will launch Source Newsletter which will inform our residence what's happening in the Winnetka/Northfield Library District. It will be mailed quarterly to all residents.

Tom Terrill asked what the library is doing for Seniors? Rebecca answered that they are looking to make the library a more comfortable place to be.

Tom Pick asked, "Do you coordinate with the Book Stahl?" Rebecca explained that they do buy copies of books from them from time to time and help with author visits.

Patrick O'Donoghue stated that Lois Neustadt and Bill Fraiser are the Northfield representatives. They are there to help us be fiscally responsible. They are good stewards working to moving the library in a positive direction.

The newest hires to the library are a new head of Public Relations and a Virtual Coordinator. The Virtual Coordinator is hired to make our website and online presence engaging, available, etc. We don't want our users to lose interest.

Cricket Trutter-Hauff stated the library system is so engaging.

Al Chircop asked "What's your biggest challenge?" The biggest challenge is space. Rebecca explained that the reinvention of space, new services and revitalization of our collections. She loves that the board gives them the latitude to do their job.

Tracey Mendrek asked, "Do we have to worry that the Northfield Branch will go away?" Rebecca doesn't want it to go away. We need to realize we are all one district – delivery of services should be seamless. Rebecca would like to promote Northfield more. Would like to have more signage to show where the library is located.

Tom Terrill asked, "Who owns the building?" Rebecca answered that Northfield owns the building, the library pays rent.

David Woodyatt asked, "Do you have something you want or too much of something?" Rebecca answered the Library Board is very active in the library. They keep the balance of having the money for what we do.

Dave Detlefson asked, "What role do you see libraries taking as we head into the next 5-10 years?" Rebecca stated that the Library is an experience, a digital hub of continuous learning. A cultural experience, helping people go forward with their personal and professional lives.... with their health, etc.

In the interest of time, Tracey stated Rebecca would take one more question. Frank Charhut stated, as wifi spreads in community space, I believe it will be a long time before we see the death of the printed book.

Rebecca stated the library realizes 85% cardholdership in the district.

Tracey thanked Rebecca as the Caucus applauded her.

Ruth Lucchesi- Treasurer gave our financial report. See Exhibit I. Stating our balance is way below what is needed for a survey. The survey is our largest expense. Discussion of the survey and fundraising ensued.

Keith Reed – Membership stated a year ago, 26 people expressed interested in serving on the Caucus. ½ lost interest. We have 5 new members as of last month (June, 2013). Keith said that Al Chircop, Jim Appel and Tracey Mendrek are chasing 4 others. Danny Castino would like to join. He hasn't been able to attend that last two meetings. Three others we are chasing are:

- ❖ Jenny Wilson – Lagoon Drive
- ❖ Leonard Rubin – Sunset Drive
- ❖ Christ Ritcher – Wagner Road

Bobbie Moore and Bill Gould will look into people in their area.

We need one in Jim Henderson's District (44).

Frank Charhut – Finance stated that the Village Budget is more than just numbers. He suggested that at each meeting he dissect a piece of the budget. All agreed that would be very informative.

Tracey suggested that we send a tickler for the Board Meeting dates. She reminded us that we should be attending Board Meetings so that when the time comes to vet our candidates, we can assess the needs of the Board and select candidates accordingly.

Tracey stated that each member needs to be a part of a Caucus Committee. She will put together a description of the committees so that we can select a committee that best fits our talents.

Tracey then turned our attention to the issue of Walmart petitioning to build a super store in Northbrook. They are petitioning to build just north of the ComEd site. They are proposing an access to this piece of property where Sunset Ridge Road will be impacted.

Northbrook will be holding open meetings to be held at Glenbrook North Center for Performing Arts, 2300 Shermer Road, Northbrook on:

August 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00p  
September 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00p

Various Caucus members voiced their disdain for Walmart building at that location. They asked if we were going to take a stand as a Caucus on this issue. Discussion ensued as to whether it was appropriate for the Caucus to take such a stand.

Tom Terrill stated he would like to take a vote on whether to take a stand. Tracey stated that she is not sure if it's appropriate for us to make a statement and would like to research it further.

Bobbie said she thinks we can take a personal stand but not a Caucus or Board stand.

Patrick and Ken Bly would like to propose a well worded resolution sent to Northbrook.

Tracey asked that we table this discussion until she can read our By-laws and consult with past Chairman on the proper way to handle this issue.

Tracey stated that there is a trust account set up through O'Halloran Kosoff Geitner & Cook, LLC to defray the legal fees to block Walmart from building on said property.

Willow Road – still dealing with utilities relocations. They expect to work through winter. The big project is the bridge reconstruction. The project is a bit behind schedule.

Hibbard Gardens – had their ground breaking ceremony July 11<sup>th</sup>

Blue Pearl – will open in mid-August

Dunkin Donuts – has begun clearing the property.

Tracey then reiterated that she will due diligence on Walmart and report back at our next meeting.

She then asked for any new business. Seeing none asked for a motion to adjourn, Ruth so moved and Jerry Mulick seconded.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:27p.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Estabrooke  
Secretary – Northfield Village Caucus

EXHIBIT I

Northfield Caucus  
P. O. Box 8034  
Northfield, IL 60093-8034

Accounts Held At  
Northview Bank Trust  
Northfield, IL 60093

Income Statement  
for the Calendar Year  
Ended 31 Dec 2013

1 January 2013 Beginning Balance			1,100.13
Revenue	Contributions		300.00
	Interest year-to-date		<u>0.20</u>
			300.20
Expenses	ck 1017	Post Office Box	77.00
			<u>77.00</u>
30 June 2013 Balance			<u><u>1,323.33</u></u>

Contributors include:

Chircop      Al & M. Gaye  
Lucchesi     Ruth & Claude