

MINUTES OF NORTHFIELD VILLAGE CAUCUS MEETING (8/25/2020)

The meeting was a ZOOM meeting called to order by Chair David Woodyatt at 7:00 PM. Members present on their computers were Al Chircop, Shelley Cohen, Barnaby Dinges, Jonathan Don, Kathy Estabrook, Ericka Foster, Bill Gould, David Miller, Jerry Mulick, Keith Reed, Beverly Smith, Cricket Trutter Hauff and David Woodyatt. Guests were Village Trustees Tom Whittaker and Charles Orth, along with two Caucus candidates William Kelly and Michael Cohen. (As of the end of this meeting the Caucus has 25 members—in addition to the members mentioned in this paragraph, there are Marco Aiello, Marsha Balsamo, Thomas Bolling, Genie Cooper, Dave Fullerton, Mark Gantner, John Kemper, Larry Russell, Jeannie Scully and Dennis Smith.)

Upon motion made by Bill Gould and seconded by Kathy Estabrook, the minutes from the last Caucus meeting on 1/23/2020 were approved.

David gave the Treasurer's report which was a balance of \$1071.86 after payment of \$64 for the Caucus post office box rental.

Chair of our Nominating Committee, Al Chircop, thanked the members of this year's nominating committee-- Ericka, Mario, Keith, Mark, Kathy and Jon-- for all the time they spent in meetings in preparation for the upcoming selection of candidates for the Village President and Village Trustee positions. A big thanks was given to Al and David for doing the heavy lifting on this very important project.

Al then reviewed the final Recommendations by the Nominating Committee for the 2020 Procedure for the selection of these positions (a copy of which is attached hereto). He mentioned that the committee first ruled out the possibility of the traditional live interview meetings held in the past and also a hybrid type meeting with some members present and others on their computers. With the assistance of Marco Aiello we were able to utilize the services of a Zoom Institutional System to have all caucus members appearing on their computers for group discussions and for the voting process to occur without disclosing the individual votes of the Caucus members. The first vote will be for Board President, then for the three trustee vacancies. We now have 25 Caucus members eligible to participate in this selection process but they have to be present at all three interview meetings the evenings of September 28, 29 and 30 in order to vote at the end of the September 30th meeting. Al emphasized the importance of this year's selection process, the full participation of the Caucus members, acquiring knowledge of the candidates and skill sets needed by the Village Board, Caucus members understanding how the voting procedure will work and that they have an operational computer system. Upon a motion made by the Nominating Committee to accept its proposed "Recommendations" for the selection of the Village Board members in 2020 and second by Bill Gould, such "Recommendations" were accepted.

At this time guest Cohen and Kelly were introduced and a discussion held on their interest in becoming Caucus members and their experience living in the Village. Chair Woodyatt has known both of these individuals for sometime and recommended them to the Caucus. Their bios had been emailed to all Caucus members. In addition to the information supplied in the bios Michael Cohen said he had lived in Northfield for 15 years and raised his three children here; that he had become interested in serving on the Caucus after attending Village meetings regarding the proposed Skokie Valley Trail; and that his career has been spent helping companies with developing websites and other software startup matters. Bill Kelly grew up in Northfield and raised his 5 kids here; he has had law enforcement experience; has

been an Assistant State's Attorney for 26 years and served for over 30 years in the Army Reserve as a Battalion Commander; knows the Northfield police force well; and is a current member of the Village Planning and Zoning Commission.

Our two Trustee guests and the two Caucus candidates were excused from the meeting. After a brief discussion, a motion made by Al and seconded by Shelley, the Caucus members present unanimously approved Candidates Cohen and Kelly as Caucus members.

After being duly warned by ZOOM that our 40 minutes was about to expire a motion duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting was approved. The meeting adjourned around 7:45 PM.

(Prepared by Keith Reed, Caucus Secretary)