

Northfield Village Caucus

July 13, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Tracey Mendrek, Chair at **7:07** pm.

Caucus Members present at the meeting were:

Jim Appel	Jim Henderson
Frank Charhut	Finley Maxson
Dave Detlefsen	Tracey Mendrek
Jonathan Don	Pat O'Donoghue
Kathy Estabrooke	Thomas Pick
Kathy Fishman	Keith Reed
Cricket Hauff	

Northfield Trustee Brian Kozminski attended as a guest.

After a motion and a second the Agenda was approved.

Those caucus members not in attendance at the April 13, 2011 initial meeting introduced themselves with a brief biography.

After a motion and a second the Minutes of the April 13, 2011 meeting were approved.

Tracey introduced Northfield Trustee, Brian Kozminski, who is also a member of the Traffic and Transportation Committee and the Long-range Planning Committee. Brian gave us a brief "State of the Village" based on his positions.

- Income from Sales Tax is rising. There is no definitive reason as yet, because the breakdown from Springfield has not been received, but the guess would be the inclusion of the Volvo dealership into the Village.
- 100% of our retail space is leased. He praised Anne Kane for her hard work in this area.
- The Village paid off the early retirement incentive using reserve and surplus monies
- Adoption of the following ordinances:
 - A ban on billboards along the Edens' corridor
 - A ban on Massage Parlors
- Drafting of a new Liquor Code is in its final stages (current draft available on the Village website)
- Approval of the new Storm Sewer improvement in the Meadowview area.
- The Village is in the process of looking for grants for additional storm sewer improvements.
- Village is looking for a replacement for Anne Kane, Community Development Director and Joe Mikulan, Fleet Manager.
- Update on Seul's purchase

Tracey opened the floor to questions.

Patrick O'Donoghue asked Brian; why are we revising the current Liquor Code? Brian explained the staff felt the code wasn't in line with other communities. The revision gives us flexibility to bring in new business to the Village and to be more flexible for implementation for school and church events.

Tom Pick asked about Anne Kane's replacement. Brian answered; Stacy has many applications that she is whittling down. Since this is the focus of the Village, this is an important position in our Strategic Planning.

Cricket Trutter asked; why are Walgreen's liquor hours different than Dominick's. Brian answered; Walgreen's asked for those specific hours.

Dan DeLoys asked; any news on the BP and Eden's Bank sites? Brian answered; BP is status quo. Edens still has development rights and want to hold on to the property.

Committee Reports:

Tracey for Bobbie Moore, By-laws Chair. Bobbie will call a meeting with the 4 members in the next few months.

Keith Reed, Membership Chair. He just received the newest Membership listing. There are 2 or 3 positions in 44. Precinct 9 could use 1 or 2. We have names to pursue and Cricket will be helping.

Mike Sollitt, Finance Chair. Nothing to report

Jim Henderson, Platform Chair. The committee has 4 members. He would like to tackle an issue that came up last term. Expressing Opinions - Should the Caucus be able to express an opinion and what the rules around that should be. He used the example of Home Rule. Should the Caucus have given a "Caucus Opinion" on our Home Rule vote to the Village and its residents?

Tracey for Al Chircop, Nominating Chair. Al is in the process of putting together a "Nominating Committee Important Dates" Calendar.

Kathy Fishman, Survey Chair. Kathy will be contacting members in the Jan – March 2012 time frame. They will be discussing what questions they will want to see on the survey from Park District, Village Staff, and Library. Brian asked to have questions about storm sewers in the survey.

Tracey for Ruth Lucchesi, Treasurer. Need email addresses from all residents for the survey. Would like some help in gathering documents, articles, etc for the website.

Financial Report: Current Balance \$1,997.09

Credits

Member Donation	\$150.00
Interest	.72

Debits

Post Office Box	\$ 46.00
Website	717.16

Tom Pick asked about the Ash Tree Removal Program. Brian responded; all the public trees have been removed. The Village had 421 public trees to remove. We have a \$14,000 grant to put towards the removal costs. Keith asked about the trees on private property. Brian answered: The Village is giving owners 30 days notice of infected trees. If no response, the Village will take action.

Tracey thanked those who attended the June 21, 2011 Committee of the Whole (COW) and Board Meeting.

Next COW and Village Board meeting is July 19,2011 – Police Pensions will be discussed

There being no further business to come before the Caucus, Mike Sollitt made a motion, seconded by Cricket Trutter to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote all approved and the regular meeting was adjourned at 8:10p.

The meeting was then handed over to Mike Nystrand, Fire-Rescue Chief, Public Works Director and Dick Knudson – Assistant Director and Fire Captain.

Mike gave us an update on the current storm situation. 250 still without power.

Mike then gave us an overview of his departments – Overviews attached to these minutes. After the overview Kathy Estabrooke, voiced how impressed she is with the amount of work that comes out of his two departments with a minimal staff. She thanked him for finding ways through economies of scale with other communities in keeping the costs down as well.

We were given a complete tour of the facilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Estabrooke
Secretary – Northfield Village Caucus