

**Northfield Village Caucus
1/29/2015 7pm**

Caucus Members Attending:

Keith Reed
Ruth Lucchesi
Cricket Trutter Hauff
John Kemper
David Woodyatt
Thomas Bolling
Jerry Mulick
Patrick McCarthy
Tracey Mendrek
Jonathan Don
Jennifer Bishop-Jenkins
Patrick O'Donoghue
Marsha Balsoma

Guest

Stacy Sigman, Village of Northfield

Call to order 7:05pm

1. Approval of Agenda

Tracey asked for motion. Motioned and approved.

2. Approval of October 2014 Minutes

Tracey asked for motion. Motioned and approved.

3. Membership Committee Report

Keith Reed provided the membership listing for 2 year terms for all members.

Marsha Balsamo presented as new member.

All existing members were contacted to verify continued interest. Keith asked members to seek out new members.

Motion to approve, approved.

Keith asked members to review conflict of interest statement. Please indicate preferred method of contact to be listed on website.

4. Selection Committee Report

Tracey reviewed Selection Committee report and noted the new officers:

Jon Don, Chair.

Al Chircop, Vice Chair

Frank Charhut, Treasurer
Patrick McCarthy, Secretary

Jon recognized Tracy's hard work as Chair and thanked her for her service.

5. Treasurer's Report

Don as outgoing Treasurer reported on finances.
Balance on 30 Sept 2014 was \$1714.49.

6. Future Meeting Dates

Thursdays at 7pm on the following dates for 2015:

April 23

July 23

October 1

7. Suggestions for future speakers

Previous meetings have been with speakers from the Northfield Police Department, Department of Public Works, and Youth Services.

Chamber of Commerce is a possible choice.

Stacy Sigman, Village of Northfield, indicated willingness to come at any time or a member of a Department.

It was noted that having a new Village Trustee would be a good opportunity to meet them.

Cook County representative, North Shore Mosquito Abatement, and Senior Center were proposed.

School Board member was also presented as an option.

8. Discussion of Committees and Solicitation of Volunteers

All committees need ongoing participation and leadership.

a. Platform

No Chair currently. There has not been any recent interest in reviewing or updating the platform.

b. Nominating

Just completed 2014 process.

c. Communication

Not much recent activity.

Getting word out about people being interested in serving as a Trustee is a key component of this Committee.

d. Survey

The Survey is required by Caucus Bylaws at least every 8 years.

e. Finance

f. Bylaws

9. Village Report

Stacy Sigman provided a report from the Village.

Willow Road

Willow Road is in last of three phases. North and South sides are nearly complete. Middle is next major portion. Winter work will focus on utilities.

Storm Sewer is mostly complete. Feeder systems are still being connected.

No road closures are planned for the Winter but would likely resume in Spring.

Major delay from Nicor not removing utility conflicts in time.

Pavement should be in by end of May. June should be plantings, pavement stripes, lighting.

Many roads are County, State, or Private. Emphasis this year on building relationship with Cook County to urge them to repair County roads in disrepair.

Cook County has promised a study of Happ Road to analyze traffic and pedestrian usage. This would be for a project three years in the future at the earliest.

Village Budget

Maintained AAA Bond Rating. Only 12 communities in IL with this rating. This is a good indicator of overall financial position.

Look a Five Year Model is part of annual process.

BUDGET PROCESS:

Draft of Budget will be available Feb 22nd.

Open Working Meeting March 9th.

Hearing on Budget March 17th

Storm Water

Remains a major issue for review.

ComEd

Smart Meters are being rolled out. This will help ComEd respond to outages. These may start rolling out in Northfield in September 2015.

Village is looking to use same technology for Smart Water readings that would allow the Village respond to water leaks.

Electric Aggregation

This has been a good program for us and has saved money for residents.

Smart Meters will actually change the way people are billed since it will assess electrical usage based on time of day.

Business Development

Business is doing well despite Willow construction.

Mariano's is looking at ways to renovate or expand store in Northfield.

Range Rover opened but Chrysler/Dodge/Jeep moved to Glenview.

Only one vacancy for retail downtown – lowest in Chicago area.

Branding Initiative

Looking to rollout in next few months.

Northfield Road Corridor

Will be reviewing the zoning for this area. Light Manufacturing may no longer be the right type of zoning.

10. New Business

Discussion if Caucus Members should be required to provide a phone number or email address for publication on our Caucus Website.

Motion to require was not seconded.

Will discuss at next meeting.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was seconded and approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patrick McCarthy
Secretary –Northfield Village Caucus