

## MINUTES FROM NORTHFIELD VILLAGE CAUCUS MEETING 12/5/2024

- Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Chair Beverly Smith in the Village Park District conference room. A motion duly made by Kathy Estabrooke and seconded by Sue Kelly to approve the 8/13/2024 and 10/28/2024 minutes was approved by a majority of the Caucus members present.

- Attendance

Those Caucus members present were Becky Newport, Carol Ritchell, Nancy Blake, Kathy Estabrooke, Al Chircop, Sue Kelly, Patti Morrell, David Woodyatt, Beverly Smith, Keith Reed, Mark Gantner, Patti Morrell and Nancy Blake. Outside guests attending the meeting were Tim Carter, Brad Rosset, Pam Paapdatos and Trustee Charlie Orth.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Caucus' bank balance is still \$836.36 as reported in the last few meetings.

4. Oversight Report and Discussion of Roundabout Status

Our Caucus has been well represented by many of our members who have regularly attended Village Board meetings to discuss the Happ Road and Roundabout project plans. It's been reported by our members attending those meetings that about 70% of the Village residents attending such meetings are opposed to both of these issues and it appears that 5 of our 6 Village Trustees are also inclined to oppose such projects as they have been presented to our Village residents. There was also a discussion of several past alternative plans for Happ Road which were also discussed at the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Village Board meeting.

Several of our Caucus members reported that the Village has a very experienced and professional architect now residing in Northfield who has volunteered to help design certain portions of our Village's business district to make things more welcoming and efficient. Those members who are interested in seeing a dozen or so slides showing past work of such architect should contact Beverly Smith or Kathy Estabrooke. Other general comments pertaining to the Happ Road and Roundabout projects were that those residents active in discussing these issues should continue their efforts to notify Village residents of the Village's actions re these areas.

5. Membership Report

Patti reported that several new members have been added to Caucus membership and that we now have the best representation of all Northfield precincts that we have had for a good many years.

6. Executive Meeting

The four outside guests referenced to above who were attending the regular Caucus meeting were excused from the meeting for a discussion by regular Caucus

members about some campaign rules that the Village should consider during the upcoming campaign for Village Trustees and President. The Caucus members were reminded that the Caucus' main function before our Village elections is to search for candidates and explain to them the functions and importance of the Village jobs that need to be filled. If it chooses, the Caucus can provide and place campaign signs throughout the Village notifying the public of those residents who were slated by the Caucus to run for the public office in question by using lawn signs, flyers, public meetings with candidates and other communication tools. A motion was then made by Kathy Estabrooke and seconded by Mark Gantner that these election procedures and/or materials should be presented to and approved by the Chair of the Northfield Caucus (currently Bev Smith) before they are distributed or circulated to the public. This motion was duly passed by a majority of the Caucus members who were still present at the end of the meeting's adjournment around 8:45 pm.

7. Adjournment of Meeting

At about 8:45 pm, upon motion by Kathy Estabrooke and second by Carol Ritchell, the majority of Caucus members remaining voted to adjourn the meeting.

MINUTES PREPARED BY KEITH REED

*Keith A. Reed*