

Caucus Committee General Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2023 8:00PM - 9:30 PM

Gorton Center, Grotto Room

Caucus Committee Meeting called to order: The meeting was called to order at 8:05 pm by David Hunt, President. A quorum was in attendance.

Dale Tauke proposed that the minutes from the April 11, 2023 meeting be amended to include a reference that Philip Arouca made a statement in his own defense and responded to comments at several points during the meeting. Joe Oriti made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2023 meeting with the amendment suggested by Dale Tauke, and Cindy Davidson seconded the motion. The Caucus Committee voted to approve the minutes.

Library Board

Michael O'Neill briefed the Committee on the purpose of the Library Board position.

Library Board Candidate Interview – Emily Van Bel

Emily Van Bel introduced herself to the Caucus Committee, sharing her personal and career experiences, the volunteer positions she has held in Lake Forest, and the reasons she is seeking the position on the Library Board. Emily detailed her experience with the City of Lake Forest and other committees. The Caucus Committee then interviewed Emily regarding her qualifications and experience.

Library Board Candidate Interview – Ozlem Yardimci

Ozlem Yardimci introduced herself to the Caucus Committee, sharing her personal and career experiences, the volunteer positions she has held in Lake Forest, and the reasons she is seeking the position on the Library Board. Ozlem detailed her experience with the City of Lake Forest and other committees. The Caucus Committee then interviewed Ozlem regarding her qualifications and experience.

Deliberation

The Caucus Committee deliberated on the two candidates and took a vote to move Emily Van Bel forward for the Library Board.

Closing Remarks – David Hunt

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There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Michael O'Neil, seconded by Regina Etherton. The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Steve Ratay, Internal Communications

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Addendum - Resolution thanking Lake Forest Caucus Election Leaders

WHEREAS, when a community faces new and serious threats to its well-being and way of life, citizens of the community need men and women of integrity and strength to meet the threats with courage, force and intelligence.

WHEREAS, such threats arose to the Lake Forest Caucus and the governance system of the City of Lake Forest itself in the contested Mayoral election of 2022-2023.

WHEREAS, Lake Forest Caucus officers David Hunt--President, Christopher Benes--Vice President, Joseph Oriti--Treasurer, S. Aneeqa Aqueel--External Communications and Cynthia McCullough--Fundraising and numerous other members of the Lake Forest Caucus Committee including particularly Michelle Parnell and Peggy Siebert (referred to herein collectively as the "LFC Mayoral Campaign Leaders") stepped forward against these threats.

WHEREAS, in so doing, the LFC Mayoral Campaign Leaders, acting without the benefit of any member of the Lake Forest Caucus Committee ever before having encountered such a situation, worked tirelessly, selflessly, creatively, resolutely, cheerfully and, in the end, extremely effectively to defeat these threats and in so doing proved themselves to be the men and women of courage, force and intelligence needed by the Lake Forest Caucus and the City of Lake Forest itself.

WHEREAS, in so doing, the LFC Mayoral Campaign Leaders acted in the strongest possible manner to help ensure that the mission of the Lake Forest Caucus of recruiting and endorsing the most capable and deserving individuals to serve, without intrusion of partisan political interests, in government office continues for the benefit of all residents of the City of Lake Forest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lake Forest Caucus Committee hereby in the strongest possible manner commends, and expresses its heartfelt admiration and gratitude to, the LFC Mayoral Campaign Leaders for their tremendous and critical services in confronting and defeating the threats faced by the Lake Forest Caucus and the City of Lake Forest itself in the 2022-2023 Mayoral election.