

Caucus Committee General Meeting Minutes



September 26, 2023

Gorton Center, Stuart Room

Caucus Committee Meeting called to order: Chris Benes, President of the Lake Forest Caucus, called the meeting of the Lake Forest Caucus Committee to order at 6:01 p.m. A quorum was in attendance.

Presentations by Mayor and City Manager: Mr. Benes first invited Jason Wicha, City Manager of Lake Forest, to join the meeting. Mr. Wicha briefly talked on a number of topics, including the nature of the City's governmental structure and the importance of volunteerism. Mr. Wicha also responded to questions from the Committee members, after which Mr. Benes thanked him for his presentation. Mr. Wicha then left the meeting, and Mr. Benes invited Dr. Stanford "Randy" Tack, Mayor of Lake Forest, to join the meeting. Dr. Tack spoke about his own path to volunteering for City government positions and offered comments on a number of other matters, including his views as to the characteristics that make a person a good volunteer. Time did not permit the Committee's addressing questions to Dr. Tack. At the conclusion of his presentation, Dr. Tack left the meeting.

Open Call Meeting: Mr. Benes then noted that it was time for the Committee to break into Ward groups to meet with interested Caucus members about the nature and activity of the Caucus and community issues on the minds of Caucus members. The Ward meetings with the interested Caucus members lasted from approximately 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. At the end of the meetings, Mr. Benes reconvened the general meeting of the Committee:

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Benes raised the matter of approval of the General Caucus Committee meeting minutes of September 19, 2023. Mr. Benes asked for comments. There being none, on motion by Bruce Barger and seconded by Jay Soave, the September 19, 2023 minutes were approved unanimously by acclamation as presented.

Consideration of Proposed Amendments to the Caucus Bylaws: Mr. Benes then turned to the matter of considering the approval of amendments to the Caucus Bylaws proposed by the Bylaws Subcommittee of the Committee. The proposed amendments concerned, among other things, the matters of general Caucus approval of endorsements for elective-office candidates and approval of officers of the Caucus and had been previously distributed to the Committee Members. Mr. Benes introduced the members of the Bylaws Subcommittee, noted their extensive and careful work on this project and gave a brief overview of the amendments, their underlying rationale and the requirement of approval by vote of the Committee and the membership of the Caucus.

Mr. Benes then opened the meeting for discussion of this matter. There was extensive discussion and numerous questions and responses among Committee members. When there was no more discussion

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or questions from Committee members, on motion by Michael O’Neill, seconded by Mary Byrne Galea, the matter of approval of the Bylaw amendments was voted upon by the Committee. By majority vote of the Committee members present, the proposed amendments of the Bylaws were approved. Mr. Benes then noted that volunteers from the Committee would be needed to help prepare for submitting the Bylaw amendments to the vote of the membership of the Caucus.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Mr. Benes called for a motion to adjourn, which was made by Aneeqa Aqeel, seconded by Michael O’Neill and approved unanimously by acclamation by the Committee. The meeting concluded at 9:40 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dale Tauke, Secretary