

# Caucus Committee General Meeting Minutes



November 2, 2023

*Gorton Center, Grotto 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 7:04 p.m. A quorum was in attendance.

**Opening remarks:** Mr. Benes welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Approval of minutes:** As the first order of business, Mr. Benes raised the matter of approval of the Caucus Committee meeting minutes of October 24, 2023. Mr. Benes asked for comments. There being none, on motion by S. Aneeqa Aqeel and seconded by Larry Obermeyer, the October 24, 2023 minutes were approved by acclamation as presented.

**Review of candidates for Plan Commission:** As the next order of business Mr. Benes noted that the Committee would interview candidates Henry Kleeman and Paul Thomas for endorsement for a seat on the Lake Forest Plan Commission. Mr. Benes thanked the representatives of Ward 1 for their selection of these candidates to bring before the Committee. He also reviewed briefly with the Committee the types of candidate qualifications that the Committee should be seeking and the types of questions that the Committee should be asking of candidates in interviews based on the regular practices developed by the Committee.

At Mr. Benes' request, Mary Galea, Chair of Ward 1, then invited Mr. Kleeman into the meeting room. Mr. Kleeman presented his experiences relevant to the Plan Commission position, particularly his experience on a number of other civic boards. Committee members addressed various questions to Mr. Kleeman, to which he responded. At the conclusion of the interview, Mr. Benes thanked Mr. Kleeman for his willingness to serve. Mr. Kleeman then left the meeting room and Ms. Galea invited Mr. Thomas to join the meeting. Mr. Thomas presented his experience and qualifications and his approach to working on boards and commissions. Committee members addressed various questions to Mr. Thomas, to which he responded. At the conclusion of the interview, Mr. Benes thanked Mr. Thomas for his willingness to serve, and Mr. Thomas left the meeting room. The Committee members proceeded to share and discuss their observations about the two candidates and their qualifications. At the conclusion of discussion, on motion by Annie Little and seconded by Kelly Guerro, the Committee voted to approve Mr. Thomas as the Caucus' endorsed candidate for the Lake Forest Plan Commission.

**Discussion of Annual Meeting:** Mr. Benes then addressed the Committee on the upcoming Annual Meeting of the members of the Lake Forest Caucus. Among other things he addressed the Caucus Bylaw amendments on which the members would vote at the Annual Meeting, including comments that have been made by Caucus members and how the Caucus Committed members should respond.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Mr. Benes called for a motion to adjourn, which was made by Kelly Guerrero, seconded by Janet White and approved by acclamation by the Committee. The meeting concluded at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dale Tauke, Secretary