

# Caucus Committee General Meeting Minutes



April 18, 2024  
*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 Committee meeting minutes of April 11, 2024. Mr. Benes asked for comments. There being none, on motion by Jay Soave and seconded by S. Aneeqa Aqeel, the April 11, 2024 minutes were approved by acclamation as presented.

**Review of candidates for Library Board:** Mr. Benes then said that the second order of business was review by the Committee of candidates for a position on the City of Lake Forest Library Board. The candidates were Garth Pearson and Edward Cragwall. Mr. Pearson, who is a Ward 2 Representative on the Caucus Committee with a term expiring at the end of the current Caucus year, left the meeting room. At Mr. Benes request, Regina Etherton, Ward 4 Chair, then described the Library Board candidate solicitation and review process undertaken by the Ward 4 Representatives and their thoughts on the two candidates. Mr. Benes then invited Mr. Pearson back to the meeting room to be interviewed by the Committee. Mr. Pearson made a brief presentation to the Committee about his experience and qualifications and then responded to questions from Committee members. At the end of his responses, Mr. Pearson again left the meeting room. Mr. Benes then invited Mr. Cragwall into the meeting room, and the Committee conducted a similar interview with him, at the conclusion of which Mr. Cragwall left the room. The Committee members then discussed each of the candidates. At the conclusion of the discussion, on motion by Ms. Etherton and seconded by Kelly Guererro, the Committee approved Mr. Pearson to receive the Caucus' endorsement for the Library Board position.

**Other matters:** The Committee next discussed briefly for the purpose of general awareness the Bylaws rules as to when former Committee members become eligible to receive the Caucus' endorsement for a City or School Board position and possible steps for improving the Committee's process for notifying the community of open positions for which the Committee will seek candidates.

Also, Mr. Benes noted that the Committee's final meeting for the Caucus year is to be held on April 23, 2024.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Mr. Benes called for a motion to adjourn, which was made by Michael O'Neill, seconded by Marian Percy and approved by acclamation by the Committee. The meeting concluded at 8:58 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dale Tauke, Secretary