



Winnetka Caucus Council Executive Committee

May 9, 2024
Lloyd Room, Winnetka Public Library
7:30 – 9:00 PM

Minutes

Attendees:

Peter Eck
Stanton Anderson
Kathy Hamburger
Laura Freechack
Ian Larkin
Alex Ross

Absent:

Betsy Owens
Thomas Kehoe
Jan Bawden
Doug Sutton

At 7:30PM, Executive Chair, Peter Eck called the meeting to order.

The Committee reviewed open actions from previous meetings, and discussed the Spring Town Hall plans including the tech set-up, speaker confirmations, and the Q&A format including the ability to text questions during the meeting.

This was followed by the committee organization and activation check-in. The Chairs were reminded to document the year and include “lessons learned.”

Further discussions included committee absenteeism and the process of removing Caucus Committee members, and Major Committee’s reports on activities and plans (with the exception of Village Platforms who will meet in June).

The Village Slating Committee discussed the pros and cons of re-slating candidates, and that resident understanding of the process might be an important outreach opportunity.

The Schools Committee brainstormed survey topics and is building a spreadsheet of these topics.

The Parks Committee is engaging the community on themes, encouraged attendance at Park Board meetings, and is starting to look at how Winnetka Parks compares to neighboring approaches.

The Library committee discussed how to gather more info, the need to attend Board meetings, and the need to begin thinking about topics to cover in the survey this year. In addition, Patti Morrell of the Northfield Village Caucus will serve as "At-Large" member of the Caucus Council. Kathy Hamburger, Rules Chair, will advise on the role and responsibilities.

Regarding Rules, the EC discussed the 2024-25 calendar, Caucus Bylaws Rule 111(process by which candidates are voted on at the Fall Town Hall), and additional rules changes including a formal policy on publishing the Survey's anonymous defamatory comments / remarks, at what point WCC membership is finalized each year, resident requirements for participating in the WCC and voting at WCC meetings, and the roles and responsibilities of at-large Committee members

The EC then discussed Caucus visibility at the Farmer's Market including distributing materials, taking donations, a banner for the table, and manning the booth. Ian Larking offered to donate printing services for materials.

Under New Business, the Board discussed when to contact incumbent board members about intent to run, confidentiality vs full disclosure of candidates, and the bylaws pertaining to the outreach and slating process.

Several items were submitted for discussion by Jan Bawden, Communications Chair, but because she was not able to attend, it was agreed the issues would be explored at an upcoming meeting.

Executive Chair, Peter Eck adjourned the meeting at 9:00PM.

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