

# **Village of Lombard**

*Village Hall  
255 East Wilson Ave.  
Lombard, IL 60148  
villageoflombard.org*



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, February 14, 2011**

**7:00 PM**

## **Community Relations Committee**

*Trustee Keith Giagnorio - Chairperson  
Trustee Laura Fitzpatrick - Alternate Chairperson,  
Pamela Bedard, Lisa Biegalski, Ahmed Ali,  
Cindy Wellwood-Burke, Michael Ledonne,  
Sharon Vish & Barb Ware  
Staff Liaison - Joelyn Kott*

## 1.0 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

*Chairperson Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.*

*Newest member, Michael Ledonne, led the Pledge of Allegiance.*

## 2.0 Introduction of New Member Michael Ledonne

*Chairperson Fitzpatrick introduced the new member Michael Ledonne.*

## 3.0 Roll Call

**Present:** Laura Fitzpatrick, Pamela Bedard, Michael Ledonne, Lisa Biegalski, Kimberly Angland and Cindy Wellwood-Burke

**Absent:** Ahmed Ali and Andy Draus

*Also present: William Heniff, AICP, Director of Community Development and Joelyn Kott, Communications Coordinator.*

## 4.0 Public Participation

*None.*

## 5.0 Approval of Minutes

*On a motion by Bedard and seconded by Biegalski the minutes of the November 8, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved the members present.*

### 110029

#### **Village Downtown Revitalization Project Guidebook**

Request to review, discuss and provide feedback as it pertains to social services, senior citizens, youth, diversity and intergovernmental cooperation.

*William Heniff began the meeting by providing a review of the Downtown Improvement Plan. He explained that Teska & Associates was chosen to assist with this endeavor. This plan has a different approach as opposed to others in that it is a plan for the public and downtown...a plan of the people and the committee. The idea is to have ownership with public input and comments. It is a guidebook of what we should be looking at in what to do for the future.*

*Heniff explained that the document includes an executive summary with seven sites specifically identified-key areas-that are believed to be front and center over the next five years.*

*Parking is always something that is addressed and the plan includes recommendations relative to parking areas. Based on parking analysis, there is no justification of overflow parking and no need exists for additional parking just yet.*

*Branding is included in the plan and it sets a vision for what is trying to be accomplished.*

*Key element of branding is to give a sense, purpose and direction. Surveys indicated people wanted places to go and a bookstore and pub were on top of survey ideas.*

*Angland stated that book clubs are a big trend right now. They provide a place to go and get coffee, etc.*

*Heniff noted that Yorktown has been looking to bring in a bookstore concept. Believes there is a still a market for a bookstore but to include the social experience of a book store/club.*

*Chairperson Fitzpatrick-Pop up ideas-to do it practically, lots of liability and impractical to do something like that. Heniff indicated that he is looking for the businesses to explore this concept--Bensidoun and Lombard Town Centre have been approached to try this out. Heniff said that it's a potential way to get some seasonal pop up stores with special events.*

*Ledonne pointed out that these stores work for two reasons-large inventory and short term lease but a lot of high traffic area. Unless downtown Lombard is a shopping destination, getting retailers may prove to be challenging to prove it is a shopping destination.*

*Heniff-Streetscape-getting people to move is part of it-giving people a sense of place. North Lombard has a significant population that is underserved by retail. People who live in the north part of town are driving past everything between there and Yorktown to shop-missing a few opportunities.*

*Ledonne asked if there has ever been a survey done to the people of Lombard as to whether or not they are interested in a revitalized downtown.*

*In every year the downtown is one of the top five issues that are targeted for the strategic plan....this is not unique to Lombard, according to Heniff.*

*Bedard noted that north Lombard residents don't have a grocery store.*

*Heniff stated that we do have TIF dollars available for some work to be done. In the past 10 years, we have had some new buildings, should continue activities, art fair, cruise nights, etc. The sense of coming together that seems to be very strong. We are very fortunate to have Metra in the downtown.*

*St. Charles Road-15,000 traffic-large developers looking for 40,000 plus, added Heniff. That's why the Village of Lombard comes to the table with grant money.*

*Wellwood-Burke indicated that the downtown plan is fabulous but if you don't get the buy-in from property owners, you will not get anywhere and if the Village doesn't figure out a way to communicate and have a good relationship with the property owners, it won't matter.*

*Angland stated that she has heard that the property owners are not easy to work with which results in a struggle to get people to come in but there are also problems with construction and Village codes.*

*Heniff indicated that we've heard this as well. It's not easy to locate within a space in downtown Lombard.*

*Trustee Fitzpatrick noted that when they looked for office space in the downtown that was ADA compliant, it was a tough job to find. The price on Westmore is better than*

downtown--\$300 less for rent. The price is the reason her office is not downtown.

Wellwood Burke asked what the Plan Commission thought of this plan. Heniff answered that the Community Relations Committee is the last group to review this and the Plan Commission will have a public hearing on this next week. The Plan will then appear before the Village Board in March which will include all the Committees/Commissions' comments noting their support in certain aspects.

Ideas the committee would like to suggest include:

- \* Senior housing
- \* Youth and senior activities
- \* Transportation
- \* Walk ability
- \* Pop-up retail (book store)
- \* Downtown free Wi-Fi
- \* Meet/greet space
- \* Amenities proximate to senior housing
- \* Grocery store

Staff will prepare a memo to Bill Heniff about suggestions for the Plan from the Committee.

Pedestrian underpass-project for 2012...to tie downtown with Lilacia Park.

Staff asked for clarification regarding the feedback requested by Mr. Heniff for the upcoming Plan Commission hearing.

**The Committee discussed and decided that a memo outlining the following items would be sent to Mr. Heniff on behalf of the Committee:**

- Senior housing
- Youth and senior activities
- Transportation
- Walk ability
- Pop-up retail (book store)
- Downtown free Wi-Fi
- Meet/greet space
- Amenities proximate to senior housing
- Grocery store

## 6.0 Unfinished Business

None.

## 7.0 New Business

### A. Seniors

#### 110035

#### 2011 Senior Fair

Discussion regarding the 2011 Senior Fair.

*Staff requested a preferred date for the Senior Fair. October 5 was the first choice and September 28 was the second choice. Staff will have the confirmed date in time for the March meeting.*

## **B. Social Services**

### **110030**

#### **President's Community Service Award**

Request to present the President's Community Service Award to John Meschi for his contributions to the Toys for Tots program.

*Staff presented information on John Meschi to be considered for the President's Community Service Award.*

**It was moved by Wellwood-Burke, seconded by Angland, that this matter be approved and present the President's Community Service Award to John Meschi at the March 3, 2011 Board of Trustees meeting. The motion carried by a voice vote**

### **110031**

#### **Medal of Character Excellence Award**

Request to nominate Paul Jennrich for the Medal of Character Excellence Award.

*Staff presented information regarding the nomination of Paul Jennrich for the Medal of Character Excellence Award.*

**It was moved by Ledonne, seconded by Bedard, that this matter be approved and present the Medal of Character Excellence Award to Paul Jennrich at the March 3, 2011 Board of Trustees meeting. The motion carried by a voice vote**

## **C. Youth**

## **D. Intergovernmental Relations**

## **E. Diversity**

## **8.0 Other Business**

### *Block Captain Program*

*Due to the full agenda, this item was tabled until the March meeting. Trustee Fitzpatrick asked the Committee members to please comb through and edit the sample document for what they would like to see in Lombard for the next meeting.*

## **9.0 Information Only**

### *Social Services Update*

*Staff advised the Committee that a draft RFP had been done and was submitted to Trustee Fitzpatrick for comments. Once it was finalized, it would be sent out. We are still on track for a June 1 potential start date for the new program.*

*Upcoming Referendum*

*Trustee Fitzpatrick asked whether the Committee would be interested in taking on the task of preparing information for the public on the upcoming referendum question of the advisory term limit. This will be on the next ballot and currently none is addressing the pros and cons of term limits to educate the public. If a referendum regarding term limits should pass it will constitute a change in government that has been in affect for more than 100 years, according to Trustee Fitzpatrick.*

*Ledonne offered that as a Committee sanctioned by the Village, he felt the committee should take on the task.*

*Angland offered to have independent researchers using the ORC Guideline develop a poll on this. She requested the question that we want to ask them to research.*

*Joelyn Kott interjected that perhaps the administration was already thinking about educating voters about this issue and asked for a chance to touch base with Village Manager Hulseberg to find out. She indicated that in the past when other issues went to referendum, the Village always provided public awareness information and that there were certain legal issues to be dealt with when promoting items on the ballot.*

## **10.0 Adjournment**

*On a motion by Biegalski and seconded by Wellwood-Burke the meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.*