

Village of Lombard

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



Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 8, 2010

7:30 PM

Trustee's Conference Room

Community Relations Committee

*Trustee Laura Fitzpatrick-Chairperson,
Trustee Bill Ware - Co-Chair,
Pamela Bedard, Andy Draus, Moon Khan, Cindy Wellwood-Burke, Lisa Biegalski,
Kimberly Angland, Griselda Corral & Barbara Jo Johnson
Staff Liaison Joelyn Kott*

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Laura Fitzpatrick at 7:32 p.m.

Present: Laura Fitzpatrick, Pamela Bedard, Barbara Jo Johnson, Andy Draus, Lisa Biegalski, Kimberly Angland and Cindy Wellwood-Burke

Absent: Trustee Bill Ware, Griselda Corral and Moon Khan

Also present: Lee Lewis, former Executive Director of the DuPage County Health Department; Joanne Mitrenga, YMCA; and Joelyn Kott, Communications Coordinator.

2.0 Public Participation

None.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Wellwood-Burke and seconded by Biegalski the minutes of the January 11, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved by the members present.

4.0 Unfinished Business

090705

Social Services Program

Request to review and discuss the Social Services Program.

To begin, Trustee Fitzpatrick presented a letter from a library trustee who sent a letter about the homeless people in town who hang out at the library on PADS nights. JoAnne Mitrenga, Executive Director of the Tri-Town YMCA, advised that PADS will ban people from their sites if they are drunk or disorderly.

Trustee Laura Fitzpatrick asked Joanne Mitrenga to bring the committee up to speed on the status of the United Way grant for which the Tri-Town YMCA applied.

Mitrenga applied for a United Way grant. She will know about funding in May and, if approved, will receive funding in July. Families and senior citizens were the focus of the grant. She indicated that no one would be turned away-that is the target population that would be reached out to-- emphasis as always on low income and minority population. The grant was written for Lombard-Villa Park-Oakbrook Terrace. JoAnne indicated that if she applied for a DuPage County grant, some part of the program would have to be available to county-wide residents. JoAnne is looking for direction on whether or not to apply for the county grant, based on possible funding from the Village of Lombard.

Providers of the services covered by the grant, if received, would be Tri-Town Staff (manage program, outreach of the program.) Program guide to all three towns' residents homes/phone referrals, name recognition of YMCA that are already being used for phone referrals; also case management-follow up with people after we have made a referral-critical part of the process-so many times that people don't follow through because of obstacles. Under the grant, services would be provided by Metropolitan Family Services, a highly respected organization with close ties to United

Way. JoAnne has spoken to the director there and the plan is to have one bi-lingual social worker on site at Y, one morning a week to be senior-friendly and one in the evening for families. JoAnne thinks that there is a good chance that they will receive this grant as Lombard does not have a Youth and Family Services Organization in the Village.

In terms of areas of need in the County-JoAnne researched and this is a void-much smaller towns have these services and Lombard does not. Other partners that we can bring include "Forward Organization," a part of DuPage Health Department whose main focus is to reduce child obesity-tied to social services and government agencies as well as medical facilities and partners. Already seeing the benefit of this. With grant money we are instilling more physical activities into the Y's after school program with integrating others, i.e., schools, into the program. United Way is looking at this integration to be one of the most successful programs that work.

Andy Draus inquired as to how much money the grant would be. Joanne indicated that if awarded, it would be \$26,000 per year that was requested for three years.

Andy Draus went on to ask if that was enough money to make the program work. Joanne indicated that it is not enough. She added that it is hard to know how much is enough for the first year.

Andy Draus asked from a staff perspective, Metropolitan Family Services staff member is a cost and wondered if Joanne saw any changes to her staff resulting in this?

Joanne indicated that there would be staff changes and that she would not hire lightly as there is a need to hire for the long run. I would extend hours of existing staff. She indicated that she can use existing staff members as they have lots of part-timers now-about 25-30 part-timers and only 2 full-time staff people.

The Y has only one person with social services background now, who deals mainly with seniors. From a case management standpoint, professional services would be handled by Metropolitan Family Services after assessment, according to Joanne while the Y staff would be handling office work and phone calls.

Laura Fitzpatrick added that the Fire Department does "Well Being Checks." YMCA does this as well. Procedure established to check on people who may not have someone doing that. Laura also asked Joanne what is the need from the Village right now?

Joanne indicated as far as going ahead with DuPage County grant, she is looking for a commitment of funding from the Village as that is a criteria of the grant from the County, matching funds. Laura was asking about the need to get a commitment from all three towns to get a number that would be agreeable to all.

Joanne asked whether Lombard would be willing to commit funding if the other towns did not. Trustee Fitzpatrick indicated that the Village is in the middle of budget cuts so funding at this time was not an option. However, if the services that would be provided by the new program would offset something else, that might work out to an advantage in terms of future funding.

Joanne indicated that the DuPage County grant is due February 19.

Kim Angland added that we're in a Catch 22 right now...there's no commitment but the Y could turn the grant down if they would receive it.

Andy Draus pointed out that the United Way grant would be for three years. Joanne indicated that there should be results to show after six months. Lee Lewis added that he was not sure that the Y would get the United Way grant if you don't have some other grant money. Forward Organization and childhood obesity pieces-have overlap....and another grant that applied for at a family foundation, according to Joanne.

Other needs in the areas and other funding exist, and Joanne indicated that she will go where there's a need but there also has to be funding. Special ed, tutoring, etc. are huge right now as priorities and where funding is concerned.

Lee Lewis asked what the Mission of Tri-Town YMCA was. Joanne said that it focuses on "Well Being-Body, Mind and Spirit." They are a non-facility YMCA-all programming is in the community. Their largest program is care for the children before and after school.

Lee Lewis said that it sounds like chasing money and Joanne said that she is not chasing money-chasing the need. For example, special ed care after school-makes sense with what we are doing already...federal dollars available for this...tutoring and the need is there. Must have the funding to offer the program. Joanne also added:

- * Tri-Town has been in a negative situation where revenue do not exceed expenditures.
- * Tri-Town would never turn any one away for services.
- * She is at a crossroads-if I apply for a grant from the county, will that prohibit Lombard for giving funds to the Tri-Town?

Lee Lewis added that if it offers services, people will be there. The only way to expand is to document that you are making a difference and providing the services.

Barbara Jo Johnson asked if the Y had a cost per service. Joanne said that they don't have that info and Lee Lewis said it is very difficult to provide that.

Joanne said that the referrals should be directed to the YMCA to find the correct services.

Laura Fitzpatrick said that she can have the departments track the info that would be wanted from the Y-i.e., well being visits, to track the time that the Village spends to try and get funding associated with it. Crisis intervention is not part of the grant-would not be offered without funding from the Village, Joanne pointed out.

County grant--\$40,000 is what would be requested. Lee Lewis indicted that the competition for funding is most competitive now than ever. He added that additional funding would probably be needed to secure a grant from the county.

Joanne decided that she will not apply for the county grant at this time. Laura Fitzpatrick pointed out that anything that we can add to the community is a good thing.

Joanne wants to concentrate on connecting people to the medical services they need which will reduce crisis intervention.

Lisa Biegalski said that if we document all the need, maybe we can get some funding.

Kim Angland asked about the Crisis Center on Finley and what services are offered there. Lee Lewis said that it is just a housing situation, run by the Health Department. Great facility but no services offered. He also added that by law, a person cannot be kept there more than two or three days-they are being observed there to make accommodations and observation.

5.0 New Business

[100054](#)

Medal of Character Excellence Award

Request to nominate the students in the Glenbard East Key Club for the Medal of Character Excellence Award.

The committee reviewed the application for the award. Trustee Fitzpatrick asked staff to contact the nominator and ask her to resubmit information that included a specific event.

Cindy Wellwood-Burke offered that it is a new club at Glenbard East and thought that the group deserved notoriety.

6.0 Other Business

Trustee Fitzpatrick asked the committee members to bring committee ideas to the next meeting so that future projects could be mapped out. Some discussion was held about a possible fundraiser for future social services for the YMCA.

7.0 Information Only

Staff distributed Census information to committee members.

8.0 Adjournment

On a motion by Bedard and seconded by Biegalski the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.