



Governor's Home Town Award Winner & Cup Finalist

Bringing Everyone's Strengths Together  
A Round Lake Area Community Coalition

## **General Meeting Minutes**

June 14, 2018

Jim DiDonato called the meeting to order at 8:45 AM at the Round Lake Village Hall Annex.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes from April 12, 2018. Nancy made a motion and Dale gave a second. All in favor.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes from May 10, 2018 Georgeann made a motion and Reverend Kauffman made a second. All members were in favor and the motion passed.

Dan McGillis gave an overview of the Round Lake Village Hall and BEST's transition to the village for its meetings. The Mayor indicated that space is available for use by the community.

### **Speakers - Nicasa Teen Court**

- Nancy Radford recently retired from Nicasa. Analisa Morali is now taking over as coordinator of the Teen Court program.
- Teen Court is an alternative option to the traditional court system for first time juvenile offenders that focuses on restorative justice.
- Peer jurors develop empathy, gain awareness of community issues, obtain a deeper meaning of civic responsibility, and practice valuable life skills.
- 89% of youth complete the program. Of those that complete the program, only 8% recidivate compared to 44% of those who do not complete the program.
- Teen Court actively assists students with a variety of life challenges through sentencing including connecting youth to mentors, getting truant youth back to school, providing access to addiction, gambling, & mental health and much more.
- Program is expanding to additional police departments and communities this year.
- Contact Analisa if your organization has service opportunities available and/or potential individuals who could serve as jurors.

### **Q&A**

- Mayor McGillis indicated difficulty in finding mentors for youth. Nanci indicated she finds success in connecting youth interests with adults that specialize in their interests.
- What is the role of the family in the restorative justice process? An example was given of a youth that was requested to have a positive ten minute conversation with her father every day and report it back to the courts.
- What are the eligibility requirements for youth? Police screen through a referral form. They do not take traffic or gang offenses.
- Many youth are attending Teen Court for sexting. Nanci indicated that netsmartz.org is a great resource for sexting concerns and others.
- Teen Court offers tours of the Lake County Jail to help youth understand how their choices could affect their lives.

- Do youth receive a conviction or a record? If they complete the program they do not receive a conviction or receive anything on their record.

### Reports from Executive Committees

#### President

- Work is being done on budgets and goals, cost savings, website updates and online payments.
- Executive Committee will be having a retreat next week to discuss budget and goals.

Vice President- Jim reported that the July presentation will be on Voter Engagement.

#### Treasurer

- Eric is finalizing members for the audit committee and the audit for FY 18.
- Planning for the next budget is happening in preparation for the Executive Committee retreat.
- The May and June Audit reports will be approved in July. The beginning balance for May was \$17,077.57, total revenue was \$400, total expense was \$730.29, and ending balance was \$16,747.28

### Reports from Standing Committees

By-Laws - No report.

Fundraising - Jim reported that the committee is looking for additional members to help meet the goal to raise \$20,000 by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

#### Membership

- Jim reminded everyone that membership renewals were due on May 1st and that organizations should send in their membership applications to Sandra Lopez.
- Please submit an application with your check.
- Online payments for membership are now available.

Public Awareness - Jim reminded everyone to share information and to tag us on Facebook.

### Reports from Special Committees

#### Chili Supper

- Sponsorship opportunities are now available from \$100 - \$2,500. The secretary will send out sponsorship information to the membership.
- The committee is recruiting additional members to support the 15th annual Chili Supper.

#### Dementia Friendly Committee

- The next meeting of the Dementia Friendly Committee is July 2nd at 9:00 am at the Avon Township office.
- Committee is currently researching possible strategies to assist our community and individuals living with dementia.
- The committee is recruiting additional members. Please contact Kathy Myers for additional information.
- Kathy gave a plug for individuals to use the community calendar and to remember the grant opportunities that are available through BEST.

### Kindergarten Readiness Committee

- Jeanne Kearby will be taking over as chair of the Kindergarten Readiness Committee.
- The committee has received a grant for the fourth year in a row from the Women United Group at United Way of Lake County to support preschool scholarships at the Round Lake Area Park District. An additional \$4,000 was received this year to support the program.
- The Kindergarten Readiness Committee will be participating in National Night Out.
- The next meeting of the Kindergarten Readiness Committee is

### Transportation

- Mayor Soto will be attending a fireside chat on Thursday, June 28th from 6:00 - 7:30 PM at the Round Lake Beach Civic Center to discuss PACE transportation issues.

### Voter Engagement

- Committee members are preparing for the July presentation that will focus on the importance of voter engagement, local voting matters and strategies BEST will be working to implement.
- The next meeting of the Voter Engagement Committee is Monday, June 18th from 3:00 - 4:30. Location TBD (Round Lake Area Library or Panera Bread).

### New Business

Various announcements were made from members.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM. The next meeting of BEST will be July 12, 2018.