



Governor's Home Town Award Winner & Cup Finalist

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

General Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2018

Jim DiDonato called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM at the Round Lake Area Public Library.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes from March 8, 2018. Nanci Radford presented a motion to approve the minutes and Georgeann Duberstein seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

Presentation from Terry Lumpkins, Mayor of Round Lake Heights

- Mayor Lumpkins has been in office for 25 years.
- Mayor Lumpkins works at a car dealership and is involved with Richard's and Eileen's restaurants that is owned by his family and local to the area.
- The Village has become debt free, rebuilt the sewer system, and created full time police, building, and public works departments in the last 25 years.
- The Village made a memorial park out of an area that previously experienced flooding and made improvements to the retention pond near Rollins Road. Army Corps of Engineers places restriction on how deep the retention pond can be. The Village itself was not affected by the July 2017 floods as much as other communities as a result of actions taken to fix infrastructure issues after flooding in 1993.
- The village has partnered with the Round Lake Park District to fund and implement six parks in the community.
- Population of the village is 2,673 with about 750 homes and 10-15 vacant homes. Some homes have been bought by the village, remodeled, and sold. Revenue from the homes fund the Dollars to Scholars Program. This program has given over \$120,000 in scholarships to student since 2004.
- The biggest community challenge is the loss of the community block grants that previously helped with infrastructure issues. Despite this, the village will be conducting \$300,000 of road repairs projects this year through other sources of funds.
- Water has been purchased for the village from the Village of Round Lake Beach. However, this year JAWA is building infrastructure out to Cedar Lake Road. The Village will be putting out a referendum this year to support the buildout of a water tower and the appropriate infrastructure needed to allow the Village of Round Lake Heights to have its own independent source of water and control over its rates.
- The village has had a hometown festival every year for the last 25 years by the Village Hall.
- RLA Heights partners with seniors to plow their driveway after roads are cleared and conducts monthly/bi-weekly wellbeing checks with seniors.

Presentation from Liz Herzberg and Mary Vallely - Fundraising Committee

- Committee's goal is to raise \$20,000 by April 2019 to support the community empowerment grants. Current donors are primarily focused on marketing based

donations. We need to expand those donors and different types of donors to reach our goal.

- Mary encouraged everyone to participate in story collection of B.E.S.T.'s efforts to aid in fundraising.
- Liz asked everyone to consider adding B.E.S.T. as their charity of choice through Amazon Smile. It was noted that you must purposefully log into Amazon Smile to take advantage of its benefits.
- The committee is seeking additional members. Next meeting is to be determined.

Presentation from Sanda Lopez, Membership Committee Chair

- Sandra presented on the mission, structure, and membership benefits of the B.E.S.T. Coalition.
- Individuals interested in renewing their membership or becoming a member should submit their membership application and dues by May 1st.

Reports from Executive Committees

President

- Jim recognized the work of the committees over the past month.
- Jim will be working with Eric to wrap up the year end financials.

Vice President

- May's meeting will be our annual Grant Breakfast and Celebration. Additionally, Dr. Collins will be presenting.
- June's speaker will be Teen Court and July's meeting will focus on voter engagement.
- Our 20th Anniversary Celebration will be on December 13th.

Treasurer

- Beginning cash balance was \$17,796.88. There was no revenue but \$515 in expenditures leaving a net revenue/expenditures of -\$515. Ending cash balance was \$17,281.88. Kathy Meyers noted that the Round Lake Area Schools Fine Arts Boosters expenditure should be a line item under the Chili Supper instead of Grants. Pete Molidor made a Motion to approve the March Treasurer's Report with Kathy's modification and Dale Kehr made the second. All were in favor of the motion.

Reports from Standing Committees

By-Laws - No report

Fundraising - Request that members consider joining the committee.

Membership - Membership due are due on May 1, 2018.

Public Awareness

- Wendy Warden will be acting as the new committee chair.
- Wendy requested that everyone like the B.E.S.T. Facebook page as their organization and personally. A member mentioned that individuals can share the B.E.S.T. page on their LinkedIn as well.
- A request was made to set up an auto response when an individual makes a request to add events to the community calendar.

Reports from Special Committees

Chili Supper

- Chili Supper will be on October 15th and it will be the 15th year of the Chili Supper.
- Kathy indicated that new members are needed to bring new ideas and implement the plan for the supper. The committee will meet next on April 17th at 9:00 AM at the Round Lake Beach Panera Bread. The committee is flexible and can work to accommodate new member's schedules.

Dementia Friendly

- Recent presentation from Martin Perez regarding Catholic Charities senior services. Next month, Kathy Breen, Oak Street Health Care, will present.
- Chris Damon from Lessons in Care, trained police officers in Round Lake.
- Dementia Friendly Committee will meet next on May 7th at 9:00 am at the Avon Township office. New members are welcome.

Kindergarten Readiness Committee

- Committee members are hard at work preparing for summer activities such as Pop Up Preschool.
- The next meeting is May 8th. Time and place are to be determined. New members are welcome.
- Judy Armstrong is stepping down from the Chair position. Jeanne Kearby will be stepping in as the Chair.

Transportation

- LCCTSC is waiting patiently for the report from the consultants. Georgeann Duberstein will continue to keep B.E.S.T. updated on their progress.

Voter Engagement

- In process of recruiting members, please contact Deanna Olmem at Deanna.Olmem@uwlakeco.org or 847-775-108 if you are interested in learning more about the committee.

New Business

Various announcements were made from members.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM. The next meeting of BEST will be May 10, 2018.