



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

*Governor's Home Town Award Winner & Cup Finalist*

## **General Meeting Minutes**

January 11, 2018

Jim DiDonato called the meeting to order at 8:37 AM at the Round Lake Area Public Library.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes from December 14, 2017. Georgeann made a motion with a second from Mayor Dan McGillis. All in favor.

## **Reports from Executive Committees**

### President

- Jim gave a huge thanks to the Round Lake Middle School for their participation in December's celebration.
- Upcoming Events include a presentation from the Lake County Department of Transportation on February 8th and the March 31st deadline for Community Empowerment Grant applications.
- BEST Executive Committee is working on a realtor's tour
- The Executive Committee is also working on developing ideas for voter initiative in 2018. Many suggestions from the Committee were brought up including:
  - Incorporating groups that are working toward this currently including the League of Women's voters, Mano a Mano
  - Focusing on high school students that are newly eligible to vote.
  - Debate occurring at Round Lake Beach Civic Center on January 27th. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Debate starts at 6:30 PM. Suggestion to record the debate for viewing.
  - Utilize the experience of the League of Women's Voters.
  - It's known that registration efforts are going well but individuals are still not voting.

Vice President - No report for this month.

Treasurer – Beginning cash balance was \$21,650.52. Total revenue was \$366.83. Total expenditures was \$4070.41. Ending cash balance was \$17,946.94. Judy made a motion to accept the report and Jeanne made a second. All were in favor.

## **Reports from Standing Committees**

By-Laws – No report.

Membership – No report.

Special Projects – Reminder that Grant applications are due on March 31st.

## **Reports from Special Committees**

Chili Supper Committee - Dr. Mendoza won the Chilli Supper raffle. The cards were then donated by Dr. Mendoza to the bus drivers.

Dementia Friendly Committee – No report.

Fundraising - Liz Herzberg has graciously agreed to chair the committee.

### Kindergarten Readiness Committee

- The tour of the Round Lake Area Park District Preschool went very well. Thanks to donations from BEST and the United Way of Lake County's Women's Leadership Council multiple children

are able to attend preschool. Family Focus is now operating a group out of this building to help supplement services for the families.

- Next meeting January 17th at 1:00 PM at the Round Lake Area Schools Administrative Services Center.
- The library has a wonderful Kindergarten Readiness Program operating currently.
- Reports from the Shriver Center will be released soon.
- Judy asked the Board to consider whether or not BEST will be able to again donate funds to supplement the UWLC grant or if the Committee needs to apply for the Community Empowerment Grant.

Transportation - The Lake County Division of Transportation is having an open house on Tuesday, January 23 from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM at the Civic Center to discuss transportation issues with the community. More information will be available to BEST at the February meeting as well.

New Business: Speaker: Gerry Daley, Mayor of Hainesville

- The mayor grew up in Wisconsin and moved to Illinois. He received his degree from Western Illinois University in education and worked in Lake County until he retired from Mundelein School District. He was elected as Hainesville Trustee in 2009 and Mayor in 2017.
- Limited availability of employment options in Hainesville and most residents work outside of community. There is rural spirit with low crime rate yet easy access to amenities in nearby communities.
- The Mayor seeks to serve residents to the best of his ability, maintain village infrastructure in good working order, and encourage pride in the village.
- The state has committed to putting a westbound turn lane on Hainesville Road and Route 120.
- Flooding was worsened by the wetlands that were overgrown and the village will be taking remediation efforts to prevent and/or lessen future flooding.

Q & A to Mayor Daly

- Water wells are doing well outside of one well that lost a pump recently. The well was promptly fixed. Water quality is tested monthly and has met all expectations. Water is not expected to run out anytime soon.
- 1,500 registered voters and 199 individuals voted in the last mayoral election.
- Georgeann, in her role as trustee, is charged with taking care of the wetlands and the mayor is in charge of drainage.
- The Hainesville community is split between Round Lake Area School District and Grayslake School Districts. Most of the community is split between different zip codes and districts: fire, library, park, police, etc.
- The Mayor has recently renegotiated the police and dispatch contracts saving the village \$100,000 per year.
- Flooding from July 12th was caused by sewers backing up and wetlands being inundated. An estimated 18 -20 residents were affected. The Mayor declared the area a disaster to help with state and federal assistance.
- The Mayor is looking for ideas on how to design an area near their village hall as a gathering place.

Various announcements were made from members.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM. The next meeting of BEST will be February 8, 2017.