

**VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MEETING HELD VIA GOTO MEETING AND
AVAILABLE LIVE AT WWW.LINCOLNWOODIL.ORG/LIVE-CABLE-CHANNEL/
JUNE 2, 2020**

Call to Order

Village President Bass called the Committee of the Whole meeting of the Lincolnwood Board of Trustees VIA gotomeeting to order at 6:02 P.M. Tuesday, June 2, 2020, meeting held via GOTO Meeting and available live at WWW.LINCOLNWOODIL.ORG/LIVE-CABLE-CHANNEL/, County of Cook, and State of Illinois.

Before calling the roll the Village President read into the record the requirements for public comments for later in the meeting.

On roll call by Deputy Village Clerk Heather McFarland the following were:

PRESENT: President Bass, Trustees Ikezoe-Halevi, Klatzco, Hlepas Nickell, Sargon, Cope, Patel
ABSENT: None

A quorum was present.

Also present: Anne Marie Gaura, Village Manager; Chuck Meyer, Assistant Village Manager; Heather McFarland, Assistant to the Village Manager; Jon Bogue, Management Analyst; Robert Merkel, Finance Director; Andrew Letson, Public Works Director; Steve McNellis, Community Development Director; Jay Parrott, Police Chief; Anna Kaperski-Walsh, Superintendent Parks and Recreation Department; Melissa Rimdzius, Director of Parks and Recreation; Doug Hammel, Development Manager; Steve Elrod, Village Attorney (Arrive 7:10 P.M.).

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of May 19, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting were presented for approval.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell moved to approve the minutes of May 19, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting, seconded by Trustee Sargon.

Deputy Clerk McFarland called the roll.

Ayes: Trustees Ikezoe-Halevi, Sargon, Patel, Cope, Hlepas Nickell, Klatzco
Nays: None

The motion passed.

Regular Business

1. Discussion Concerning Alternative Camp Care for Summer 2020

This item was presented by Melissa Rimdzius, Parks and Recreation Director, using PowerPoint.

Ms. Rimdzius provided a recap for the Village Board of the May 19 Committee of the Whole meeting and the decision not to have summer day camps for the summer of 2020 due to COVID-19. Ms. Rimdzius stated that at that Committee of the Whole meeting staff received direction from the Village Board to look into alternative day care.

Ms. Rimdzius stated there were two surveys sent out regarding general camp and child care. Ms. Rimdzius spoke of a new child care program called FUNdamental Care and Development and outlined the details of the program such as hours, age range of the children, locations and fees.

Ms. Rimdzius spoke of the safety and cleaning precautions that would take affect for the program.

Ms. Rimdzius stated the majority of the program is outside unless weather dictates otherwise and also spoke of the safety steps being taken during activities.

Ms. Rimdzius laid out the steps that would be taken if there was any exposure to COVID-19.

Ms. Rimdzius stated that if staff is exposed and contracts COVID-19 they would need to quarantine and would continue to be paid during that time.

Ms. Rimdzius stated if everything goes as planned the fee being charged for the program should cover the costs to run the program.

Ms. Rimdzius asked for Village Board feedback on the program.

President Bass asked if the program included special needs children. Ms. Rimdzius stated each child would be assessed and if special needs are required staff would work with MNASR.

Trustee Klatzco asked if MNASR canceled all their camps for the summer. Ms. Rimdzius stated she did not know but did know they were doing virtual programs. Trustee Klatzco asked about the numbers of students, if it was being limited to 20. Ms. Rimdzius stated yes. Trustee Klatzco asked about back-up counselors for the programs. Ms. Rimdzius stated they would do a rotation of staff for each group. Trustee Klatzco asked about the fact that now that it is not a day camp but child care do the rules change. Ms. Rimdzius stated there was not much of a change in the guidelines between the two.

Trustee Sargon asked for a rough figure regarding cost if someone was exposed during the program. Ms. Rimdzius stated it depends and the cost is for over a nine week period. Ms. Rimdzius went over the cost if time off was needed or if had to close. Trustee Sargon asked about operating at a loss. Ms. Rimdzius stated there is a financial risk. Trustee Sargon asked if

there was a way to increase capacity at the end of June if we hit Phase 4. Ms. Rimdzius stated the issue was space and that if the weather is fine we have room but if it rains we do not have enough room.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell asked the average age of the staff anticipating hiring. Ms. Rimdzius stated 18 on up would be the age of the majority of staff. Trustee Hlepas Nickell asked regarding net revenue included credit card fees. Ms. Rimdzius stated it did not include credit card fees. Trustee Hlepas Nickell also asked if the Community Center was open for rental and if not when might that occur. Ms. Rimdzius stated it is not open for rental at this time and not sure at what phase that might happen. Ms. Rimdzius stated that staff is monitoring state guidelines and seeking as to what other communities are doing. Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated she was apprehensive about doing the day care program due to the risk and felt it wasn't a reliable alternative for people that really need day care. Ms. Rimdzius stated this is a pilot program for other municipalities as well.

Trustee Patel asked if Skokie or Niles was offering anything similar that Lincolnwood might be able to partner with. Trustee Patel stated he is okay offering the service but would like to possibly partner with Skokie. Ms. Rimdzius stated that Skokie's program is resident only at this time.

Trustee Cope stated he is in favor of the program and stated we should try and accommodate those that are in need of the program and does not see why we cannot accommodate that need.

Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi asked if there was going to be a waiver for parents to sign prior to starting. Ms. Rimdzius stated there will be a waiver. Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi asked if there would be a temperature check for Children. Ms. Rimdzius stated yes, the temperature would be taken at the car before entering the day care area. Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi asked if a child forgets their mask would the Village provide one. Ms. Rimdzius stated yes. Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi stated as a parent she depended on day care and summer camps in Lincolnwood for her children and stated she was in favor of this program of this.

President Bass polled the Village Board. There was consensus by the Village Board to proceed with the program and with the dates provided.

2. Discussion Concerning Business Reopening Strategies and Initiatives

This item was presented by Steve McNellis, Community Development Director, using PowerPoint.

Mr. McNellis stated there are several members of the business community attending: Peter Abraham, General Manager of Lincolnwood Town Center; Nicole Olsen, Walmart Pick-up Store Manager; Terry Lawler, Divisional Supervisor of Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises (L. Woods Tap & Lodge); Peter Bournas, Manager/Owner Psisteria Greek Tavern; Phil Stefani, Owner of Stefani Prime Restaurant; Erin Lyons, Executive Director, Lincolnwood Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. McNellis provided background on the Restore Illinois Plan, what businesses can open, and State guidelines.

Mr. McNellis stated that staff conducted a survey through the Northwest Municipal Conference (NWMC) to see what other communities are allowing in efforts to help local businesses re-open, and as to whether or not they are using municipal funds for re-opening initiatives.

Mr. McNellis presented possible strategies to the Village Board, such as business operations, and possible Village Code relief.

Mr. McNellis provided information regarding business operations which outlined what information the Village can provide to the local businesses.

Mr. McNellis spoke of certain Village Codes that could temporarily be relaxed until businesses are up and running again. Mr. McNellis stated that restrictions should have an expiration date whether it is a month, phase five or other.

Mr. McNellis spoke of the business promotion and outreach to assist the local businesses such as advertising for the businesses, promoting re-opening events.

Mr. McNellis stated there was a lot of conversation with the Economic Development Commission (EDC) and ideas that were presented at the EDC meeting.

Mr. McNellis stated that the EDC feels the Village should be more lax on the Village Code and fees as long as possible. Mr. McNellis also stated that the EDC spoke of signage easements but there should be guidelines.

Mr. McNellis presented staff recommendations to the Village Board some of which were outdoor advertising with feather signs to be displayed through Labor Day and to also allow for a small outdoor display table in front of the business. Mr. McNellis stated that one of the items presented would be in conjunction with the Lincolnwood Chamber of Commerce, highlighting a different business each week, and have that business attend a Village Board meeting to promote their business.

Mr. McNellis stated that one of the staff recommendation is to have a business roundtable.

Mr. McNellis stated that as part of Phase 2 it would include such items as a business fair and a buy local branding campaign.

Mr. McNellis stated staff is looking at consensus from the Village Board as to how to move forward.

President Bass welcomed the business owners that were in attendance.

President Bass asked Peter Abraham, General Manager of Town Center Mall, to speak. Mr. Abraham thanked the Village for their help during this trying time. Mr. Abraham agreed with

all of the staff recommendations that were presented. Mr. Abraham also stated that loosening of any regulations would be most helpful. Mr. Abraham stated that 25% of the mall is open at this time.

President Bass asked Phil Stefani, owner of Stefani Prime Restaurant, if he had any comments. Mr. Stefani stated this is a difficult time first with COVID-19 and now with the other issues. Mr. Stefani stated whatever the Village Board can relax now in the way of the Village Code or allow staff to deal with items as the businesses cannot wait until the next Village Board meeting. Mr. Stefani stated restaurants were not made to operate at 50%. Mr. Stefani stated that another municipality put aside money to assist the local businesses.

President Bass stated so you are in agreement with eliminating red tape to get things moving. Mr. Stefani stated that there are some great business leaders in our community that would not do harm and would like staff to be able to assist.

President Bass asked Erin Lyons, Executive Director, Lincolnwood Chamber of Commerce, to speak. Ms. Lyons stated the Chamber wants to support the businesses. Ms. Lyons stated if the Village could relax guidelines for signage and promote businesses that are open through social media. Ms. Lyons stated that anything that can be done for local businesses would be most appreciated.

President Bass asked each Village Board member for their opinion.

Trustee Klatzco stated he agreed with staff recommendations in loosening the red tape.

Trustee Sargon stated she agreed with Trustee Klatzco's comments. Trustee Sargon also spoke of possibly returning license fees to help the businesses. Trustee Sargon appreciates the Buy Local campaign. Trustee Sargon also spoke of a rebate program, a messaging campaign, whatever the Village can do to help. President Bass asked Trustee Sargon if she was in favor of an end date of early fall in regard to loosened restrictions. Trustee Sargon stated she was in favor of that.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated she is in total support of whatever the Village can do to help these businesses. Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated the Village should push the buy local and that social media is really the way to push this.

Trustee Patel spoke of the Special Village Board meeting on May 27 regarding outdoor seating and that the Village will do whatever it can to help local business. Trustee Patel stated that he has heard from residents regarding issues and stated this is a learning process and the Village will address issues and that the restaurants do not want to be a burden to the neighbors. Trustee Patel stated he had reached out to Mr. Merkel and Ms. Gaura about a rebate program that might incentivize Lincolnwood residents to go to local restaurants. Trustee Patel stated that perhaps there was the possibility of moving funds around to try and make a rebate program possible.

President Bass thanked Trustee Patel and stated this is something we are currently evaluating to try and help local businesses.

Trustee Cope stated we should do whatever we can to facilitate getting the businesses open. Trustee Cope stated he is very much in favor of businesses opening up as rapidly as possible. Trustee Cope stated he supports the guidelines that Mr. McNellis presented.

Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi thanked Mr. McNellis for his presentation and thanked Mr. Abraham and Mr. Stefani for participated and also stated she was for opening as quickly as possible.

President Bass stated that Mr. McNellis has his direction from the Village Board, that the consensus was they were in favor of staff recommendations.

3. Discussion Concerning Zoning Landscape Standards, Applicability and Relief

Trustee Patel suggested tabling this item due to time constraints and moving on to item four.

President Bass asked the Village Board if they concurred. There was Village Board consensus to table this item until a future meeting.

Trustee Patel made a motion to table to a future Committee of the Whole, seconded by Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi.

Upon roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Patel, Cope, Ikezoe-Halevi, Sargon, Hlepas Nickell, Klatzco

Nays: None

4. Discussion Concerning a Requested Text Amendment to Permit Car Washes in the B-2 General Business Zoning District

This item was presented by Doug Hammel, Development Manager, using PowerPoint.

Mr. Hammel stated the following were present: Clay Rankin, Iron Real Estate, LLC; Chad Nieuwsma, Fuller's Car Wash Equipment Company; Matt Fuller, Fuller's Car Wash Equipment Company.

Mr. Hammel provided the Village Board with an overview of the regulator context of the requested use.

Mr. Hammel listed the items to be considered for this project to align with the Zoning Code as well as with the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Hammel stated staff is seeking referral to the Plan Commission to conduct a Public Hearing related to a potential Zoning Text Amendment to permit car washes in the B-2 General Business District as a Special Use, with any direction the Village Board may deem appropriate in terms of planning and zoning considerations or related regulations.

Steve Elrod, Village Attorney, advised the Village Board about the procedural process of this matter. Mr. Elrod stated this is for the Village Board to give their feedback before it goes to the Plan Commission for a Public Hearing. Mr. Elrod stated what is spoken tonight is not binding on any member of the Board if and when they consider the matter at a later date. At this particular point. Mr. Elrod stated the Village Board does not need to do a full review at this time, this is just to begin the process, and let the applicant know that it can proceed through the full public process.

President Bass asked petitioner, Matt Fuller for comments. Mr. Fuller stated he just opened a new car wash in another community and the residents did not want it at first but now they like it. Mr. Fuller stated that this is a four generation business and would be a good addition to the Village.

Trustee Klatzco stated the Village has a vision for our entry way and does not feel this would be a proper use.

Trustee Sargon stated the B-2 is not the best place to put a car wash due to the residential area.

Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated she saw what happened to the property across the street which was formally Fair Muffler and how it declined until the CIP Bank went into that site. Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated that she felt the purchase and collection of those two properties would make it the focal point and she didn't know that that is the message the Village wants to send or the aesthetics appearance of the Village similar to what Trustee Klatzco stated that this is a gateway. Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated she felt the B-2 should be reserved for entertainment and retail that the Village Board has envisioned. Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated she doesn't feel this is a good use but rather for retail use in that area.

Trustee Patel stated he echoes the same sentiments. Trustee Patel stated there are other places where this use is contemplated but doesn't see a compelling reason to allow in a B-2 and doesn't see where the residents in that area would be for that use. Trustee Patel stated that he doesn't see where in any of the B-2 would be a good place for the car wash. Trustee Patel stated that even if it should be allowed the Village, doesn't feel that the stakeholders and the residents would be of the mind that they would see that use being desirable in the B-2. Trustee Patel stated that he would follow-up with what Trustee Hlepas Nickell stated regarding the assembly of these properties that Trustee Patel would be in favor of multi-story and highest possible density use for that property.

Trustee Cope stated he agreed with everything that has been said thus far and doesn't see how this use would help this district.

Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi stated she was not in favor of a Text Amendment for a car wash in a B-2. Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi stated to Mr. Fuller that this does not preclude him coming back for another area.

Mr. Rankin stated that the Jiffy Lube across the street is a similar use. Trustee Patel stated it would be a legal non-conforming use and was not approved under the current code. Mr. Rankin stated he is willing to do what they did in Harwood Heights regarding in lieu of sales tax.

President Bass stated as Trustee Ikezoe-Halevi said, this does not preclude you from looking for another site in Lincolnwood.

Trustee Cope stated that what was stated here tonight does not preclude the petitioner from going before the Plan Commission.

President Bass asked for any public comment. There were none.

Adjournment

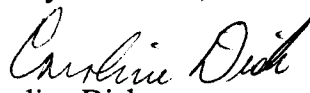
At 7:44 P.M. Trustee Sargon made a motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting, seconded by Trustee Hlepas Nickell.

Upon roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Ikezoe-Halevi, Cope, Patel, Hlepas Nickell, Sargon, Klatzco

Nays: None

Respectfully Submitted,


Caroline Dick
Deputy Village Clerk