

MINUTES

LA GRANGE 2020 TASK FORCE

Village Hall Auditorium
53 South La Grange Road
La Grange, IL 60525

Wednesday, February 19, 2014

- **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

A meeting of the La Grange 2020 Task Force was held on February 19, 2014 in the Auditorium of the Village Hall at 53 South La Grange Road, La Grange, IL, beginning at 7:10 p.m.

Present and Constituting a Quorum: Chairperson Michael Kotynek, Vice Chair Katie Justak, Jim Arnold, Ellen Brewin, David Bucaro, Margaret Carlson, Karen Deane, Ken Eastman, Clayton Edwards, Michelle Halm, Elyse Hoffenberg, Jimmy Janevski, Meg LeFaivre, Bridget Lacey, Karrie Lange, Anthony Lewandowski, John Lorenzen, Caitlin Malloy-Marcon, Scott McPherson, Mark Nelson, Steve Palmer, John Pappas, Russ Riberto, Sherry Robinson, Lisa Sagami, David Schwartz, Elizabeth Stiles, Jeremy Strayer, Ray Swiatek, Laura Tussing, David Wilkinson, Lester Williams, and Rebecca Wimbush.

Absent: Laura Blentlinger, John Boehms, Julie Bunnell, Michael Cameron, Richard Holly, Wayne Kardatzke, Mark A. Lies II, Ellen MacEntee, Suzie Mosher, Mark Reich, and Glenn Wentink.

Also Present: President Tom Livingston, Village Clerk John Burns, Trustee David McCarty, Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn, Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson, Finance Director Lou Cipparrone, Director of Public Works Ryan Gillingham, Police Chief Michael Holub, Fire Chief Bill Bryzgalski, Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin and Greg Di Domenico, Community Memorial Foundation.

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting on January 15, 2014 were presented for approval. Steve Palmer made a motion which was seconded by David Schwartz to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

- **PRESENTATIONS**

Chairperson Michael Kotynek welcomed Task Force members who were assigned a table for discussion on five identified topics including Community Vitality, Core Services, Economic Development, Infrastructure and Finance. Village staff were introduced and will serve as resources to the various groups during the meeting.

Chairperson Kotynek explained that the evening's agenda will include presentations from two organizations that provide services to the community at the point where the Village's responsibility ends. The presentations will be followed by a question and answer period and then a working session.

A. Community Service and Support Organizations

Chairperson Kotynek introduced President / CEO Greg DiDomenico of the Community Memorial Foundation. Mr. DiDomenico explained that the Community Memorial Foundation is a private, independent foundation established nineteen years ago as a result of the sale of the non-profit La Grange Memorial Hospital to Columbia HCA Corporation.

The foundation provides grants and other services to twenty-seven communities in the west Cook and eastern DuPage area, including La Grange. The mission of the organization is to improve the health of people who live and work in the Foundation service area. Health is defined broadly and can include physical, mental, environmental, social and spiritual aspects.

The Community Memorial Foundation carries out its mission and vision through three primary strategies: 1) Responsive Grant Program; 2) Building Organizational Effectiveness Program; and 3) Healthcare Access Program.

To date, almost \$60 million has been awarded to area non-profit organizations which include Adventist Hospital, Aging Care Connections, Beds Plus, Community Nurse, LeaderShop, Helping Hand and Pillars. The services funded by the grants assist residents from birth to old age.

Mr. DiDomenico noted that these area nonprofits, along with others, provide critical services to the community; are major employers; and help to stimulate economic growth. Nonprofits are responding to the changing demographics of the community by identifying sustainable initiatives through collaborations with other organizations. The Community Memorial Foundation recently commissioned a study to develop a profile of major socioeconomic and health trends in within the service area. The Foundation also performs an advocacy role as other traditional funding sources become less available.

B. Citizens Council

Citizens Council Chairperson Jim Arnold provided an overview of the La Grange Citizens Council which is a non-partisan, non-profit organization formed in 1941 which promotes citizen participation in order to represent the Village as a whole. The goal of the organization is to promote La Grange as a cohesive community that works together to enhance quality of life for its residents.

The Citizens Council encourages incumbent and potential candidates to run for elected office; recommend the most qualified candidates after a group evaluation; and assist selected candidates with campaign materials.

In addition, the group offers opportunities for residents to be involved in government through various meetings and events.

There were no questions from the audience.

• **SYNTHESIS OF PRESENTATIONS AND ORGANIZATION OF REPORT DEVELOPMENT**

Chairperson Kotynek provided a reminder of the timeline which includes a meeting on March 19 for the working groups to continue their discussions. In April, the group will meet in a more formal format and each working group will be asked to present their findings to the broader group for review and comment. In May, comments will be incorporated into documents that will be turned into the leadership team to consolidate in anticipation of a presentation to the Village Board in June.

The five working groups each received copies of the presentations, self-starter questions, census data, and access to a subject matter expert. Chairperson Kotynek noted that as each group deliberates, it should strive to: 1) answer open questions; 2) challenge current thinking; 3) perform a SWOT analysis; 4) think big picture and be realistic to broader implications; and 5) identify how the strategy is incorporated into the Village's overall mission of Preserving and Enhancing the Quality of Life in La Grange. The goal of the working groups is to eventually consolidate these thoughts into a three or four page working document.

The working groups began discussions of the assigned subject matter and consulted with staff as necessary.

Chairperson Kotynek thanked the Task Force members for their input and good discussion. The working groups will start narrowing their focus at the next meeting in March.

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- **ADJOURNMENT**

There being nothing further to come before the La Grange 2020 Task Force, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Andrianna Peterson
Assistant Village Manager

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