

Meeting Notes

Lake County Municipal League
Board of Directors
Village Hall, Village of Round Lake Beach
Friday, June 18, 2004

1. **Call to Order** Discussion began at 7:45 AM. Members present were:

Ila Bauer	Round Lake Park	President
Richard Hill	Round Lake Beach	Director
James Hayner	Gurnee	Director
Timothy Perry	Grayslake	Sgt. at Arms
Donald Rudny	Gurnee	Director
Carol Spielman (out 8:55)	Lake County	Director (Alt.)

Also present was:

Christine Wilson	LCML	Executive Director
Richard A Welton	PACE	Director
David Young	Lake County Partners	President
Jennifer Yonan	Lake County Partners	Development Director
Beth Dever	Metropolitan Mayors Caucus	Housing Director

Members absent were:

Thomas Adams	Green Oaks	Director
Roger Byrne	Vernon Hills	Secretary
Richard Hyde	Waukegan	Director
Duane Laska	Libertyville	Treasurer
Elliott Hartstein	Buffalo Grove	Director
Marilyn Sindles	Mundelein	Director

There being no quorum present, members present agreed to review the items on the agenda and discuss issues of mutual interest.

5. A. **Consideration of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Model Affordable Housing Plan**

Ms. Dever discussed the purpose and development of the plan. The Caucus Housing Task Force had approved the recommendations as an aid to member municipalities drafting a housing plan to meet the new state Affordable Housing Planning Act. Member COGs are being asked to approve the document. Director Wilson suggested that the document could be distributed to member municipalities as a Caucus document immediately, and the Board could approve or accept the document when it next has a

quorum. It was the consensus of those present that this was the appropriate course of action.

5. B. **Discussion of Membership and Legislative Issues with Lake County Partners** Mr. Young and Ms. Yonan presented a summary of LCP's activities since January 2004, as well as their short and long term goals. They discussed the effect that current economic conditions are having on the Lake County community's ability to attract and retain business. Mr. Young said that he knows that municipalities and school districts don't like to discuss funding incentives to development, but that the situation at present is such that a little might go a long way. A government might be willing to consider accepting 75% of property tax on a developed parcel for a certain number of years than 100% of a significantly lower amount for the foreseeable future. He said that Partners would like to convene a group of mayors, superintendents and business interests to begin this discussion. The LCML Board members present felt that the first meeting should be with mayors only, and then build up to the meeting with other groups. Mr. Hayner said that at some point, utilities need to be brought to the table. The others agreed, especially with regard to the issue of streamlined permitting or guaranteed permitting time. Mr. Young and Director Wilson will work on a date and location for the mayors meeting, and Mayor Bauer will write the invitation.

Ms. Yonan discussed the 'Team Lake County' functions that have been developed to bring various interests together in a setting allowing for social networking and directed discussion of development issues. She distributed the quarterly handout from the most recent meeting on June 3.

Mr. Young discussed the implications of SB 2112, which enacts a number of property tax exemption increases, as well as a 7% per year residential assessment cap. The exemption increases, which will cost about \$650 million in Lake County, are a foundation part of the bill, effective statewide. The 7% cap is optional for counties. It is not known at this time what the cost of that measure would be in Lake County, and it was agreed that we should spend the summer researching this item, so the County Board is well informed when it has to vote on whether to opt in or out.

8. **Other business – Recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on Transportation** Mr. Welton asked to address the Board regarding these recommendations, especially the PACE/Metra merger. He distributed a variety of handouts, including the Minority Report of the Task Force. He said that the recommendations will lead to a diminution of local and sub-region control over the allocation of transportation dollars. He said that under the various resolutions, decision making power is taken away from the collar counties and concentrated in Cook County. He asked the Board to study the recommendations carefully, and act accordingly.

Director Wilson distributed the recommendations of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Transportation and Planning Strategy Group, which were approved at the previous day's Caucus meeting. The Caucus is requesting member COGs to approve the

recommendations as well. Director Wilson said that we should review the recommendations for the August Board meeting. She said that we should change the way we speak about the PACE/Metra merger, as the resolution doesn't actually call for a merger. It calls for the dissolution of PACE, and a transfer of some part of the assets and responsibilities to Metra. She said she doubted that Metra would be as attuned to issues of accessibility and innovative transit ideas as PACE.

5. C. **Consideration of a Resolution in Support of the O'Hare Airport Modernization Plan** Director Wilson asked the Board members present whether they were inclined to support this request, and they indicated that they were. Mayor Bauer said that O'Hare has a great impact on quality of life and business in Lake County.
5. D. **Consideration of a Resolution in Support of VISTA Health's Proposal to Build a Hospital in Lindenhurst** The Board members present said that they had received Mayor Adams' e-mail stating that the Board should not only support the Lindenhurst Hospital, but also the merger of Victory and St. Therese in Waukegan. They were inclined to agree with him, and this item will appear on the August agenda.
5. D. **Consideration of the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year Budget** Although this item cannot be acted upon today, Director Wilson said that there were two other items pertaining to it that Board members should consider.

The first is a measure approved at the previous day's Caucus meeting, which levys a 2.5 cent per capita dues on member communities, payable through the COGs. Director Wilson said that we could absorb this membership in our operating budget, levy a special assessment for this purpose, or explore other options. She said that communities would not be excluded from the Caucus for non-payment, but that the fewer that pay, the less able the Caucus will be to function.

The second budget issue is the establishment of a League web site. Director Wilson distributed the proposal that is included in the budget proposal, saying that it was significantly less expensive than other independent web designers she had contacted. The handout included addresses of various organizations that use this program, and Director Wilson suggested the Board visit these sites to see whether the framework was acceptable.

Director Wilson also distributed a proposed Lease Agreement with the Village of Round Lake Beach for office space. She indicated that the Village may not want to call it a 'lease' due to ComEd franchise issues.

6. **President's Report** There was no report
7. **Executive Director's Report** There was no report

9. **Adjournment** Discussion ended at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine D. Wilson
Executive Director

Action Items from this meeting:

- Distribute Caucus Affordable Housing Plan guidelines to members (Wilson)
- Schedule mayors' meeting with Lake County Partners regarding development incentives (Wilson)
- Send invitation to mayors for above meeting (Bauer)