

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE
OAK PARK LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

APPROVED Minutes
Saturday, October 18, 2014
Oak Park Township Senior Center
130 S. Oak Park Avenue
9:00 am-10:30 am

Attendees:

Paul Aeschleman - Parks
Matt Baron – Library
Graham Brisben - D97
Jim Gates - D97
Victor Guarino - Parks
Clarmarie Keenan - Township (9:25)
Colette Lueck - Village
Jeff Weissglass – D200

Absent:

Peter Barber – Village
Steve Gevinson – D200
Ade Onayemi – Township
Andrea Ott – Village
Bruce Samuels - Library

Others Attending:

Teresa Powell – Village
Gil Herman, moderator for Assembly

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 am by Colette Lueck.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes of September 20, 2014, was deferred to the next meeting.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Discussion of Plans for the October 25 Meeting or Assembly of All Local Boards

Mr. Aeschleman thanked each taxing body for turning in slides. Ms. Lueck asked who will be presenting for each government. Presenters are as follows:

*In final preparation a set of four questions for discussion was prepared by the core planning team.

**Only the general comments were recorded. The comment sheet at each table was used to report back on the discussion for the breakout sessions.

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Township – Gavin Morgan; Park District – Jan Arnold or CFO; Library – David Seleb or Jim Madigan; District 97 – Bob Spatz; District 200 – Jeff Weissglass; Village – Cara Pavlicek

Each speaker will have five minutes, with a one minute warning before time runs out.

Jim Gates noted that no questions will be taken during the presentations but that there is a “built-in” debriefing at the table discussions.

Ms. Lueck noted that Village President Abu-Taleb will do a welcome and introduction of the moderator.

The order of presentations was discussed. Mr. Gates proposed that the schools be together. Mr. Guarino suggested presenting in order of size of tax levy, starting with the smallest. Mr. Weissglass noted that there are some dramatic differences between the two school presentations. Mr. Herman suggested that there should be a rationale for the order of presentation as this may set a precedent for future presentations. The order of Township, Library, Parks, D97, D200, VOP was confirmed, especially as the new Village Comprehensive Plan is an overarching document. It was discussed whether any questions would be taken at the end of the presentation. There was general agreement that any questions and discussion would happen at the individual breakout sessions.

The agenda was reviewed, including the call to order, roll call by announcing name and government by each elected official, and a statement that no official actions were to be taken at this meeting. Any actions based on this information would happen at future meetings of each individual board.

It was agreed that the presentation would be passed along to each government to post on their own web page with the Assembly agenda.

Mr. Herman recommended 3 x 5 cards at each table for comments and questions with an indication of which board such questions were addressed to. District 97 will prepare 3 x 5 cards for comments and provide pens.

Mr. Weissglass noted that Ms. Ott has volunteered to prepare a template for comments from each table to capture the discussion that takes place.*

Mr. Aeschleman presented the slides. As they were reviewed, items needed or clarifications were identified and revised slides will be sent to Mr. Aeschleman for final compilation by Wednesday morning. Mr. Herman recommended that the slides be numbered for ease of reference.

There was consensus that a slide or two presenting the distribution of property taxes to each government should precede the other slides. Mr. Weissglass requested that one slide show multi-year changes due to changes in the high school tax levy this year.

The breakout session arrangements were discussed. Each table will have representatives from each board to the extent possible, with Bob Spatz and Peter Traczak, who have prior experience working with D200 on finance issues, assigned to tables where a high school board member is not available. I-Gov members will be distributed among all five tables.

There will be one microphone and podium by the screen for presentations. Possible recording was discussed.** Ms. Powell was directed to contact the Wednesday Journal and Oak Leaves about possible coverage before and after the Assembly.

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The planning group had prepared key issues relating to economic, environmental and social sustainability for possible use in the discussions. Following some discussion, it was agreed that rather than introducing this additional detail several key questions could frame the discussion. Mr. Herman suggested that "less is more." This meeting will focus on economic sustainability with mention of future opportunities to discuss environmental and social sustainability.

Any questions should be addressed to Mr. Herman by Monday afternoon. The final agenda will be sent to each government to post.

Content of the introduction by Mr. Herman was discussed, with a focus on economic health, addressing this issue across six silos of local governments.

The purpose will be education of participants regarding drivers and challenges, intergovernmental collaboration and overall economic sustainability.

Regarding the payoff for the meeting, this will be a chance to begin to address the collective tax burden and to move beyond shared services to address it. This can lead to long-term plans on a broader scale for future budgeting. The overall debt load of the Village over time should be considered. This can impact contracts and future referenda.

Where do we go from here? The COG is one mechanism. This process can institutionalize this discussion and how we as local officials work together in the future.

Ms. Lueck suggested that this will help us determine if intergovernmental cooperation has worked; may set the tone as we recognize that much is already happening. Will this be a positive or should we leave it alone?

She also raised the issue of the proposed expansion of the Eisenhower and noted that it touches every local government. Could the Intergovernmental Committee work together to approach the Illinois Department of Transportation? This will be a later topic.

Mr. Weissglass suggested that several people meet Wednesday afternoon to finalize the questions to be discussed at the breakout sessions and to provide for a summary of responses. Any questions should be sent to Mr. Herman by Wednesday.

Reports from Taxing Bodies

There were no reports from Taxing Bodies.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee will be scheduled following next week's Joint Assembly and will be held at Village Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

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SUBMITTED AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF:

Teresa Powell, Village Clerk

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