

1) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Deer Park was held on Monday, November 30, 2009 at Vehe Barn, 23570 W. Cuba Road, in the Village of Deer Park, in the counties of Lake and Cook, Illinois. President Kellermann called the meeting to order at 7:04pm. Village officials and guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Upon roll call, the following were present: President Kellermann, Trustees Evans, Kizior, Olson, Pratscher, and Trost. The following Village officials were absent: Trustee Sands and Treasurer Stade. Other Village officials present were Administrator Connors, Attorney Bateman, and Administrative Assistant Pagona. President Kellermann stated there was a quorum. Teri Bridge and Pat Winkelman of the Vehe Farm Foundation and Vehe Event Coordinator Yvonne Keith were also present.

3) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: by Trustee Pratscher, seconded by Trustee Evans, to approve the agenda. Upon voice vote: YES: (5) / NO: (0) / ABSENT: (1) Sands. Motion carried 5/0

4) PAYMENT OF ACM ELEVATOR CLAIM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,438.00

Attorney Bateman stated that all appears to be in order when comparing the Village's spreadsheets with the statement and retainage invoice received from the collection firm. Some discussion followed.

MOTION: by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Olson, to approve payment of the ACM Elevator invoice in the amount of \$7,438.00 assuming all the backup is in order. Upon roll call: YES: (5) Evans, Olson, Kizior, Pratscher, Trost / NO: (0) / ABSENT: (1) Sands. Motion carried 5/0

5) DISCUSSION OF VEHE BARN – PRIORITIZATION OF GOALS AND STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR ITS FUTURE USE

Trustee Evans provided the following two handouts, which are attached to and made a part of these minutes: 1) Summary of Survey Comments, 2) Ground Rules for Decision Making and Mission/Vision Statements (in draft form). She provided an overview of the handouts stating her feeling that three important issues should be the basis for decisions on use of the property: 1) comparison of needs, benefits, and wants, 2) fiscal responsibility, and 3) consideration of facts, not emotions/opinions.

Board discussion, with additional input by residents, followed regarding the definitions/purposes of mission and vision statements.

Aided in part by incorporating submittals from various trustees which are attached to and made a part of these minutes, Trustee Evans' draft mission statements are as follows:

Vehe Barn Mission Statement

A community and cultural center dedicated to the preservation of our community that can be utilized by residents and the Village for meetings and events while maintaining a revenue-neutral operation.

Vehe Grounds Mission Statement

To provide outdoor recreation and open space for visual and interactive experiences that further the appreciation and knowledge of the property including the prairies and history of local farming.

MOTION: by Trustee Pratscher, seconded by Trustee Kizior, to accept the mission statement for the barn as stated above.

Board discussion, with input by residents, followed regarding how best to obtain input from the community regarding the use of the barn and property. Various options resulted including a public meeting for input and publishing the draft mission statements in a newsletter with a response questionnaire to be returned to the Village.

MOTION WAS AMENDED: by Trustee Pratscher, seconded by Trustee Kizior, to accept the draft mission statements for the Vehe Barn and property.

More Board discussion, with input by residents, followed including:

- How best to obtain community input using options discussed earlier
- Randomly selecting 100 names and dividing them amongst the trustees for visits to those homes for open dialog
- Including both of Trustee Evans' mission statements as well as her vision statement and possibly dictionary definitions for both in the survey

Vehe Farm Vision Statement

The Vehe Farm property is a functioning asset of the Village of Deer Park for the use and enjoyment of the residents in recreation, in learning and in hosting community events that build community spirit while meeting the financial objectives of the Village.

- An opinion that residents will be more interested in the details of the uses as opposed to the wording of the mission and vision statements
- Concerns as to how best to obtain a statistically accurate target sample of the community.
- Timing of the survey results since budget work will begin in February

President Kellermann stated that Roger Finley who is a professional in the field had offered to help write the survey. Pat Ekstrom also offered her assistance in the writing of and compilation of the survey results.

MOTION WAS AMENDED A SECOND TIME: by Trustee Pratscher, seconded by Trustee Kizior, to accept the Mission Statements for the Vehe Barn and the Vehe Grounds as well as the Vision Statement as drafts to be used to obtain community input. Upon roll call: YES: (5) Pratscher, Kizior, Olson, Pratscher, and Trost / NO: (0) / ABSENT: (1) Sands. Motion carried 5/0

Trustee Evans stated that the needs/requirements regarding the use of the property should be addressed in order to be meet immediate fiscal goals and that advertising/marketing assistance is needed as it is not the responsibility of Event Coordinator Yvonne Keith. Upon discussion, the following input was received from board members and the residents:

- A budget could be presented by the Event Coordinator for board approval
- There should be a variety of events held so that there's something for everyone
- Let Concorde Banquets run events with the Village taking a portion of the proceeds
- Ask Petsmart to sponsor a dog park
- Event Coordinator Yvonne Keith stated that she was told her job was to get the barn in use, not specifically to make a profit
- President Bob Kellermann stated that BACOG is working on an economic plan which may help in the use of the property
- Administrator Connors stated that there needs to be clear goals for the property within which the staff can work, and that his time is better used for commercial development within the village

President Kellermann expressed his appreciation for the good interaction between the trustees as well as the residents in attendance and added that Administrator Connors and Event Coordinator Keith have been doing a commendable job handling the use of the property.

6) ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Trost, to adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote: YES: (5) / NO: (0) / ABSENT: (1) Sands. Motion carried 5/0

The meeting ended at 8:44pm.

Robert Kellermann, Village President

Linda Bilocerkowycz