

Village of Niles

TASK FORCE FOR LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES AND FUNDING SOLUTIONS

MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2014

Persons in attendance: George Alpogianis – Co-Chair
Joe LoVerde – Co-Chair
Robert Callero
Cammy Fortuna
Tony Hollenback
Steve Vinezeano
Mike Yesner
Cathy Spadoni – Secretary

I. Call to Order

Trustee Alpogianis called the meeting to order at 8:09 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Yesner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Callero, to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2013, January 8 and January 17, 2014 meetings. On voice vote, all concurred.

III. Discussion of Lobbyist Candidates

Eight firms submitted proposals in response to the RFP for Lobbyist Services. The Task Force discussed the distinct differences between those whose primary emphasis was Federal versus State. It was noted that money comes down from the Federal level to the State level and is then portioned out by the State. We currently have good relationships with our State reps – John D’Amico, John Mulroe, Michael McAuliffe and Ira Silverstein. As had been previously decided, our primary emphasis should be Springfield.

During the interview process, we must be adamant that the fee must be well-defined.

IV. Selection of Lobbyist Candidates to Interview

Mr. Yesner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Callero, to select for interview the three candidates who were the most responsive to the RFP: McGuire Woods Consulting, Raucci & Sullivan Strategies LLC and Alfred G. Ronan LTD. On voice vote, all concurred.

Questions for the interview may include: How will you work specifically with the Village of Niles? What will you do for the Village of Niles? How successful have you been in obtaining grant money? How involved were you in writing the grants? These should be specific questions about our current needs. The candidates should be prepared to answer these questions in their 15 minutes. Mr. Vinezeano will assemble the questions to be used in the interview and will email them to the Task Force for approval. He will schedule the interviews for the first week of April.

The interview structure will be: 15 minutes for the candidate to present, 15 minutes for questions from the panel, 10 minutes between each appointment. Afterwards, the panel will discuss the candidates and select one for recommendation to the Village Board. Rejection letters will be sent after the interview process is complete.

V. Adjournment

The next meeting will be scheduled at the completion of the interviews, when the Task Force will vote on the candidate to recommend to the Village Board for their approval at the April 22 meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Task Force, Trustee LoVerde made a motion, seconded by Ms. Fortuna, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:31 a.m.

2013-2014 Task Force for Legislative Initiatives & Funding Solutions

Ad Hoc Committee Members	
Trustee George D. Alpagianis – Co-Chair	Robert Callero – Finance Committee
General Government/IT Committee Chair	Cammy Fortuna – Gen Gov/IT Committee
	Mike Yesner – Pres of Golf Maine Park District
Trustee Joe LoVerde – Co-Chair	
Finance Committee Chair	Anthony Hollenback – Human Services Dir
	Chuck Ostman – Community Development Dir
Cathy Spadoni – Secretary	Steven C. Vinezeano – Village Manager