

**NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE**

1616 East Golf Road  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016  
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www.nwmc-cog.org



*A Regional Association of Illinois  
Municipalities and Townships  
Representing a Population of Over One Million*

**MEMBERS**

- Antioch
  - Arlington Heights
  - Barrington
  - Bartlett
  - Buffalo Grove
  - Carpentersville
  - Cary
  - Crystal Lake
  - Deerfield
  - Des Plaines
  - Elk Grove Village
  - Evanston
  - Fox River Grove
  - Glencoe
  - Glenview
  - Golf\*
  - Grayslake
  - Hanover Park
  - Hawthorn Woods
  - Highland Park
  - Hoffman Estates
  - Inverness
  - Kenilworth
  - Lake Barrington
  - Lake Forest
  - Lake Zurich
  - Libertyville
  - Lincolnshire
  - Lincolnwood
  - Morton Grove
  - Mount Prospect
  - Niles
  - Northbrook
  - Northfield
  - Northfield Twp.
  - Palatine
  - Park Ridge
  - Prospect Heights
  - Rolling Meadows
  - Roselle
  - Schaumburg
  - Skokie
  - Streamwood
  - Vernon Hills
  - Wheeling
  - Wilmette
  - Winnetka
- President*  
Gerald Turry  
Lincolnwood
- Vice-President*  
Kerry Cummings  
Glenview
- Secretary*  
Jill Brickman  
Northfield Township
- Treasurer*  
Robert Kiely  
Lake Forest

*Executive Director*  
Mark L. Fowler

\*Affiliate Member

**NWMC BOARD MINUTES**

**Wednesday, May 13, 2009**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Crowne Plaza Hotel**

**2875 N. Milwaukee Avenue**

**Northbrook, IL**

**I. Call to Order**

President Darch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Darch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Roll Call**

Diane Kopterski called the roll.

**Members Present**

Arlington Heights, Mayor Arlene J. Mulder  
 Barrington, President Karen Darch  
 Buffalo Grove, President Elliott Hartstein  
 Carpentersville, Manager Craig Anderson  
 Deerfield, Manager Kent Street  
 Des Plaines, Mayor Marty Moylan, Manager Jason Bajor  
 Elk Grove Trustee James Petri  
 Evanston, Finance Director Marty Lyons  
 Fox River Grove, Trustee Duane Figurski  
 Glencoe, President Scott Feldman  
 Glenview, President Kerry Cummings  
 Hanover Park, Trustee Toni Carter  
 Highland Park, Mayor Michael Belsky  
 Hoffman Estates, Manager Jim Norris  
 Lincolnwood, Mayor Jerry Turry  
 Morton Grove, President Daniel Staackmann  
 Mount Prospect, Mayor Irvana Wilks  
 Niles, Trustee Louella Preston  
 Palatine, Manager Reid Ottesen  
 Park Ridge, Mayor David Schmidt, Manager James Hock  
 Prospect Heights, Mayor Dolly Vole  
 Rolling Meadows, Manager Sarah Phillips, Assistant Manager Barry Krumstok  
 Skokie, Trustee Randall Roberts  
 Streamwood, Manager Gary O'Rourke  
 Wheeling, President Judy Abruscato, Manager Mark Rooney  
 Wilmette, President Chris Canning  
 Winnetka, President Jessica Tucker, Trustee Gene Greable

### **Members Absent**

Antioch	Lake Barrington
Bartlett	Lake Forest
Cary	Lake Zurich
Crystal Lake	Libertyville
Golf	Lincolnshire
Grayslake	Northbrook
Harwood Heights	Northfield
Hawthorn Woods	Northfield Township
Inverness	Roselle
Kenilworth	Schaumburg
	Vernon Hills

### **Others in Attendance**

Maureen Barry, Ehlers & Associates  
Dave Bennett, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus  
Larry Bury, NWMC Policy Analyst  
Kristi DeLaurentiis, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Mark Fowler, NWMC Executive Director  
Diane Kopterski, NWMC Executive Secretary  
Rob Paral, Rob Paral & Associates  
Chris Staron, NWMC Program Associate  
Jim Tansor, Nicor Gas  
Mike Walczak, NWMC Program Manager  
Kitty Weiner, Congressman Roskam's Office  
Mary Wells, Metro Strategies  
Suxan Wexler, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society  
Larry Widmer, NWMC Deputy Director  
David Zverow, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes – April 15, 2009**

Motion to approve the April 15, 2009 Meeting Minutes was made by Manager Norris. It was seconded by Mayor Mulder and approved.

#### **V. President's Report – Karen Darch, NWMC President and President, Village of Barrington**

##### **A. May Membership Meeting Program – Northwest Suburban Immigration Integration Project**

In March 2008, the NWMC Board approved a proposal from the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) to partner with NWMC municipalities to identify resources for the immigrant population and encourage the path to citizenship.

Mr. David Zverow, Director of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), addressed the membership and stated that that his organization has worked with diverse refugee populations to re-settle them and obtain citizenship. In the last two years they have developed a strategic plan to expand in the north and northwest suburbs. Mr. Zverow stated that they want to introduce a project which will include a survey about immigrant issues in NWMC member communities and condense the information into an aggregate report to be presented to NWMC in the fall.

Susan Wexler, Assistant Director of HIAS, stated that many of their programs are volunteer driven and they work with many social service agencies and conduct outreach meetings to promote citizenship and integrate immigrants into their communities.

Rob Paral of Rob Paral and Associates discussed the electronic survey that will be sent out to members this summer and a report will be generated and shared with the NWMC membership.

Mr. Fowler reminded members that there will also be an immigration symposium on June 3 dealing with immigrant integration issues, implications to local governments and the resources available to local governments.

**B. FY2009-2010 NWMC Officer Nominations**

President Darch presented the slate of NWMC officers for FY09-10 for member approval:

President: Gerald C. Turry  
Mayor, Village of Lincolnwood

Vice-President: Kerry Cummings  
President, Village of Glenview

Secretary: Jill Brickman  
Supervisor, Northfield Township

Treasurer: Bob Kiely  
Manager, City of Lake Forest

Motion to elect the slate of NWMC officers was made by President Hartstein. It was seconded by Mayor Mulder and approved.

**C. NWMC Annual Banquet**

President Darch stated that the NWMC officers will be installed at this year's Annual Banquet on June 24 at Makray Memorial Golf Club in Barrington.

**D. New Mayors Dinner**

President Darch stated that on June 3 the NWMC will host a dinner for new mayors and village presidents at Café Lucci in Glenview. The dinner will serve to welcome the newly elected officials and introduce the Conference and the benefits of membership.

**E. Authorization to Act During the Summer**

President Darch stated that the Executive Board recommended that the membership approve a motion empowering the Executive Board to act on all issues requiring approval during the summer recess which begins following the May membership meeting.

Motion to approve the Executive Board recommendation was made by Mayor Turry. It was seconded by President Cummings and approved.

**F. Illinois Municipal League Board Resolutions**

Mr. Fowler stated that over the past year, three NWMC mayors have stepped down from their positions as board members of the Illinois Municipal League (IML). The IML Board has appointed a nominating committee to take nominations and a decision to fill the positions will be made at the IML board meeting in July. Mr. Fowler stated that President Darch has expressed interest in being appointed to the IML Board and Mayor Mulder has expressed interest in being appointed Sergeant-At-Arms. He said that resolutions in support of these nominations have been prepared and further said that if any other members want to be considered for the IML Board, they should contact the IML directly and also notify the Conference.

Motion to approve the resolutions supporting the appointments of President Darch and Mayor Mulder to the IML positions was made by Manager Norris. It was seconded by President Canning and approved.

**G. U.S. Conference of Mayors Leadership Vacancies**

Mayor Mulder stated that there are many vacancies at the U.S. Conference of Mayors for trustees and board members. She encouraged anyone that was interested in a position to submit their resume and letter of interest to the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

**H. Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Legislative Priorities Response**

Dave Bennett, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, discussed a deviation that occurred in the letter that was sent to Mayor Darch regarding the Caucus Legislative priorities. He stated that the MMC Executive Board considered recommendations from its officers at its recent meeting and the Executive Board agreed with the officers' recommendation with regard to the regional water supply and education funding reform and accountability reform. He stated that the regional water supply issue will be removed entirely from the 2009 Caucus legislative priorities. With regard to education funding reform and accountability reform, these particular issues will be referred back to the MMC Education Committee for further discussion.

Mr. Bennett indicated that removing the CREATE issue posed a problem even though the officers' original intent was to defer the issue back to the CREATE Task Force for further discussion. He stated that at a recent meeting it was pointed out that discussions will soon begin on the reauthorization legislation at the federal level and that it is very important for the Chicago region to have a position with regard to CREATE.

Mr. Bennett stated that the issue at this point is that the projects that are currently in CREATE were projects that were negotiated and decided upon by the region's railroads and IDOT and that Phase I of the multi-year program has not yet been funded. He stated that there is support by other mayors in the region for consideration of projects along the EJ&E and subsequent phases of CREATE, but at this point in time there isn't the opportunity to amend the project list for inclusion in any federal program or funding at the state level. He asked members to re-consider the recommendations that were put forth by the NWMC Executive Board and asked that it be amended to allow for the CREATE issue as it is currently stated to move forward as a regional legislative priority.

President Hartstein stated that the Conference has been a long standing supporter of CREATE and support for it is critical and it deserves the merit and support of the Conference. Trustee Preston expressed support for it but stated that a member of the Conference should be on the task force to monitor Conference interests. Mr. Bennett stated that he would welcome NWMC member participation in the task force or committees.

President Darch clarified for the record that the Conference has been supportive of CREATE and that the issue for the Conference was that if CREATE is funded and we support that, and given that the CN acquisition was approved, a footnote should be added to acknowledge that Chicago would receive CREATE funding now and some of the suburbs would get a massive amount of freight traffic now with no acknowledgement that some relief should be for the suburbs. Mr. Bennett stated that there are 25 projects on the current CREATE list and the greater majority of those projects are for the suburban area. He stated that the railroads and IDOT negotiated the current list as Phase I before the CN deal and that the EJ&E and STAR Line will be given consideration in future phases of the program.

President Darch summarized that the Conference should approve a recommendation to support the MMC Legislative priorities with the education funding and accountability reform and the regional water supply issues removed and the CREATE issue back in.

President Canning asked if the Caucus would provide a letter or some assurance that it will support the issues of the Conference in a future phase of CREATE. Mr. Bennett stated that such assurance would be provided in a letter.

Motion was made to recommend support of the MMC legislative priorities with the education and water supply issues removed was made by President Hartstein. It was seconded by Trustee Figurski and approved.

## **VI. Priority Issues**

### **A. Legislative Committee – Al Larson, President, Village of Schaumburg, Co-Chair**

#### *1. NWMC Legislative Day Report*

Mr. Fowler thanked members for their participation in the NWMC Legislative Day events. He stated that it was very productive and emphasized that the NWMC is an active player as an organization on some very key issues.

#### *2. Legislative Update*

Mr. Bury reported on various legislation in Springfield. He stated that SB1827, which only impacted Barrington, did not advance. Mr. Bury reviewed HB650 which allows retired and disabled firefighters who have left employment to rejoin municipal insurance plans. He stated that the NWMC worked with a benefits consultant to put together a draft amendment and which has now been assigned to a subcommittee. Mr. Bury stated that several mayors gave testimony on HB923 regarding fight fighters disability and that bill did not pass out of committee.

Mr. Bury stated that SB2011, which would change the pension amortization deadline from 2013 to 2049 and cap the municipal contributions at 10% over the 2008 contribution, did pass the Senate. He stated that there were numerous meetings with the firefighters and the Speaker's office has taken an interest in this legislation.

Mayor Mulder suggested trying to meet with editorial boards of newspapers and explain the cost impact to municipalities of this legislation.

President Hartstein stated that if there is an increase in the income tax members should be watchful of the local government distributive fund and urged members to reach out to legislators on this issue.

Mr. Bury discussed SB1555 which requires counties, school districts and states to buy vehicles that were manufactured in America. Mr. Norris suggested sending out an Action Alert on this bill.

**B. Transportation Committee – Kerry Cummings, President, Village of Glenview, Co-Chair and Ken Nelson, Mayor, City of Rolling Meadows, Co-Chair**

1. *Resolution to Approve Planning Liaison Scope of Services and Budget*  
Mr. Walczak stated that an annual resolution must be passed to secure Unified Work Program funding through CMAP for support of NWMC transportation and regional planning services for FY2010. The Executive Board recommended approval of this resolution.

Mayor Mulder made a motion to approve the Resolution. It was seconded by Manager Philips and approved.

2. *CMAP Matching Funds Update*  
Mr. Walczak stated that no provision had yet been made under Governor Quinn's proposed budget for the Comprehensive Regional Planning Fund. This funding source is used to match over \$11 million in federal funds which CMAP uses to perform all federally required transportation planning activities. Without a functioning CMAP, all federal transportation funds which come into the region would be jeopardized. If state funding is not re-established, CMAP may ask local governments and partner agencies for much higher contributions in order to provide a local match.

Mayor Belsky stated that over 900 mayors in the US Conference of Mayors have made a commitment to getting the carbon footprint down 7% below the 1990 levels over the next few years. He stated that PACE announced that they are receiving stimulus funds to purchase diesel fuel buses and he has been talking with PACE officials to use the funds to purchase hybrid buses in an effort to reduce their carbon footprint. Mayor Belsky asked that the Conference go on record to support the use of the stimulus funds for the purchase of alternate fuel vehicles by PACE and also inform Congressman Kirk. He stated that this provides an opportunity for the region to start making an environmental impact and asked mayors to take a stand and request PACE to change its direction.

Mr. Fowler stated that the Conference has extended an invitation to T.J. Ross of PACE to attend an Executive Board meeting. He stated that it would be prudent to do a letter and also if there is time to prepare a resolution.

Motion was made by President Hartstein that the Conference send a letter to PACE to seriously consider and evaluate the use of alternate fuel efficient vehicles before proceeding with any purchase with the stimulus funds that they will received. It was seconded by Mayor Turry and approved.

Ms. Weiner of Congressman's Roskam's office requested that a copy of the letter also be sent to the congressman.

**VII. Consent Agenda**

Motion was made by Mayor Belsky to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. It was seconded by Trustee Petri and approved. The following items were approved on the Consent Agenda:

- Monthly Budget Report and Warrant List for March 2009

**VIII. Other Business**

**IX. For the Good of the Order**

Executive Director Fowler expressed appreciation to President Darch for her service as Conference President over the past year.

**X. Next Meeting**

President Darch stated that the next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Northbrook.

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Manager Phillips. It was seconded by Mayor Mulder and approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.