

**Mayfield Village Citizens Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
September 13, 2022**

The Citizens Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center.

**Present:** Bob Haycox (Chair) Mary Salomon  
Joanna McNally Lorry Nadeau  
Rosemarie Fabrizio Marilyn LaRiche-Goldstein  
Peter Gall Sandy Batcheller

**Absent:** Mary Singer Loretta Williams  
Katie Parker Mark Granakis  
Sara Calo

**Also Present:** George Williams, Council Representative  
Jennifer Jurcisek, Council Alternate  
Allen Meyers, Council Member  
Diane Calta, Law Director  
Patti Ferris, Resident  
Peter Batcheller, Resident  
Jean Triner, Resident  
John Michalko, Resident  
Cathy Baker, Resident  
Diane Campbell, Resident  
Diane Wolgamuth, Director of Administration

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Haycox opened the meeting and asked the Committee if there were any changes to the meeting minutes from June 27, 2022, previously provided for review. There were none and the minutes were approved.

**ADA Transition Plan**

Mr. Haycox thanked Ms. Calta for coming to the meeting to meet the Committee and discuss the ADA Transition Plan. Ms. Calta greeted the members and stated that everyone here probably reads the VOV and, since it included an introduction when she became Law Director in January 2022, she won't go into any detail about herself except to say that she has a long history here, attending Center Elementary, playing softball at Wiley Park, and graduating from Mayfield High School.

Ms. Calta advised that Mayfield Village is currently engaged in putting together an ADA Transition Plan. She explained that the ADA was enacted in the early 1990s to ensure that all facilities are available to those with disabilities. This

exercise is to make sure that Mayfield Village is in compliance. “We are currently looking at all facilities, grounds, parking lots, playgrounds—all infrastructure. Most of our facilities are likely in compliance but the ADA was updated in 2010 so there may be some places where we are not. If we find non-compliance, we will set up a plan with a goal to correct and upgrade.” Ms. Calta added that the ADA applies to meetings and programs and making sure all are available and accessible to those with disabilities. It also includes the website and other communications. She explained that as part of the process, the Village needs to schedule meetings to seek public input and is looking to utilize this committee to assist with that input, likely after the first of the year. She concluded, stating that having an ADA Transition Plan is a Federal regulation and the Village can be audited by the Dept. of Justice at any time, with or without a complaint.

Mr. Gall asked when the plan will be complete. Ms. Calta responded that we hope to be far enough along to hold public meetings in the first quarter of 2023. She added that this plan will be fluid and reviewed and updated regularly.

Ms. Wolgamuth added that the recent upgrades to the Civic Center kitchen and restrooms were done for ADA compliance, so those will be included in the plan as recently completed. She reminded the members that State grants were sought and received to help with the kitchen and restroom renovation and advised that a County grant was recently applied for to assist with additional upgrades to the Civic Center.

Mrs. Jurcisek asks if there is a time requirement to get everything done. Ms. Calta explained that there is no deadline, but we need to be able to show movement toward full compliance.

### **November 8, 2022 Ballot Issues**

Mr. Haycox advised that a small group of residents are in attendance this evening. He distributed a fact sheet that they prepared regarding the proposed salary increases for the Mayor and Council that are on the November ballot. The fact sheet is based on questions they have received while talking to other residents about the issues. They are requesting that the Committee review the fact sheet and suggest changes prior to having it copied and distributed to residents in the Village. They are also hoping that some CAC members will want to help with the actual distribution which they plan to do between October 3 and October 9.

Mrs. Nadeau advised that she is a part of the group that is putting together the information and stated that it would be helpful if members have heard any opposition that is not addressed in the flyer. She stated that, to her, this is a housekeeping issue, explaining that she feels that “the Mayor is our representative, overseeing all these things—like the ADA plan--on our behalf. It is not just a figurehead role. There is always going to be a Mayor in office when a compensation issue comes up. It is not about this Mayor, it is about the position. If the ballot issue does not pass, compensation will come up again in a couple of years. We want thoughtful, serious people to run for office in Mayfield Village. We should be willing to compensate them to make it worth their while.”

Mrs. LaRiche-Goldstein suggested that benefits should be considered also. Mr. Williams responded that although benefits have come up before, they did not come up this time. “As we progress as a Village, it will be up to the residents to consider and approve any additional benefits.”

Mr. Gall asked why the salary increase does not have to be in the form of a tax levy, similar to Police and Fire. Ms. Calta responded that levies are regularly placed on the ballot for Police and Fire increases, but not for salaries of elected

officials. She surmised that it is likely due to the relatively low cost of salaries for elected officials. Mr. Gall stated that if benefits are added, the cost will grow quickly. Ms. Calta reiterated that levies are not generally done for this purpose.

Mrs. Fabrizio stated that she has heard no negative comments about the ballot issues so far. It struck her while reviewing the fact sheet that the requested increase in the Mayor's salary represents a very small portion of the Village's annual revenue. She added, "We learned through the pandemic that people will support what is important to them. Families and community have become more and more important." She suggested that the good services enjoyed by residents, that are spearheaded by the Mayor and Council, should be more prominent in the fact sheet.

Mr. Haycox added that with inflation being so prominent in the news right now, people realize that an increase is needed. He suggested that members consider writing letters to the editor of the local newspaper in support of the ballot issues.

Mr. Gall asked how it would work for the next Mayor. "Would they be hired in at the new salary plus the 2.5% adjustment or just at the \$50,000 salary?" Ms. Calta responded that a new Mayor would be hired at whatever that current salary rate was with the annual increases. Mr. Gall stated that the salary will get to \$150,000. Mrs. Jurcisek disagreed, stated that, in ten years, it won't even get to \$70,000. Mrs. Nadeau suggested that voters could always go back to the ballot to make adjustments or make it a fixed amount and pointed out that both ballot issues may not pass.

Mrs. Jurcisek stated that she roughly calculated the amount of the proposed Mayor's increase as a percentage of general fund revenue and the increase represents .06% of general fund revenue.

Mrs. Batcheller stated that she understands that the position is not designated as full-time or part-time. She thinks the Charter should specify. Mrs. McNally agreed and suggested adding language to make that clearer. Mr. Williams advised that every five years, citizens review the Charter and this could be an item for their review. He added that if the Mayor's position were designated as full time, then benefits would have to be considered. Mr. Gall stated that it would have to be their only job as they can't have two full-time jobs. Ms. Calta agreed that a full-time position excludes other outside employment. Mr. Meyers stated that he did not believe the Mayor's position would ever be considered full-time in Mayfield Village.

Mrs. LaRiche-Goldstein offered that she reached out to her husband to calculate the 2.5% increase on top of the \$50,000 salary and, over 20 years, it would compound to a salary of \$81,931.

Mr. Michalko stated that Council was pushing for benefits several years ago and said they were employees of the Village. He does not believe they are employees, they are elected officials and not entitled to benefits. Mr. Williams responded that Council members get paid and pay taxes, including being a part of OPERS.

Mr. Haycox referred to a draft informational postcard that had been provided to the Committee and asked when it will be going out to residents. Ms. Wolgamuth advised that the plan is to have it delivered by the end of September. Mr. Gall asked who is paying for the postcard and Ms. Calta advised that the Village is paying for it and is permitted to do so as there is no prohibition on a ballot issue such as this.

Mrs. Salomon noted that the fact sheet mostly addresses the increase for the Mayor, not Council. Mr. Williams advised that Council had voted only to proceed to the ballot with the Mayor's increase and the 2.5% annual cost-of-living

increase. Council voted against increases for its members. Mr. Meyers pointed out that Council only voted not to put the issue to the voters. Mrs. McNally suggested that was likely to make the Mayor's raise more successful. Mr. Williams stated that some members also felt that Council's pay is in range with other communities. Mrs. Jurcisek added that the Mayor's salary is far below other communities and agreed that Council is within range, stating, "The cost-of-living increase is an effort to keep salaries in range with inflation."

Mrs. McNally suggested that when answering the question in the fact sheet, "Why do this now?" maybe state that this has been proposed several times before, and was not understood, and we are hoping that this information clarifies.

Mrs. Batcheller stated that the fact sheet says the Mayor is also the Safety Director. Since other communities pay for that position, she suggests this be stressed with some explanation of what the Safety Director's duties entail.

Mrs. McNally advised that she has no problem adding her name to the fact sheet as a member of CAC. She said some residents might reach out to her to ask questions. Mr. Haycox asked if we can say that CAC met and is supportive of the effort. Ms. Calta agreed that is fine. Mrs. Triner stated if they are adding names to the fact sheet, she will share the final version and asked if she is adding individual names or just indicating that CAC is supportive. Mr. Williams stated that he thought the individual names and emails should be listed, but just the people present at this meeting. The members agreed.

Mrs. Triner stated that she is appreciative that CAC got this issue rolling with Council. She advised that help would be appreciated to distribute the fact sheet to residents. Mr. Haycox asked if they are putting them on mailboxes. Mrs. Triner said yes, in bags, or on doorknobs.

### **Council Report**

Mr. Williams reported on the following:

- Council approved an ODNR Grant application for possible future improvements to Wiley Park. The maximum grant award is \$143,250 but additional grants will be sought for this project. If successful, Council will have an opportunity to approve the project based on the total amount of grant money received.
- Council approved an ordinance to ban parking on the Aintree Park Drive cul-de-sac. There were concerns expressed by residents living in the apartments, but after hearing from the Police Dept, Fire Dept and Service, Council decided that it made sense to ban parking there.
- Council approved a renewal contract with the Mayfield School District to provide School Resource Officers at Center Elementary and Mayfield High School for the 2022-23 school year.
- Council approved a contract with A&J Cement for the Aintree Park Sidewalk Program in the amount of \$291,960. The Village is covering the cost for sidewalks damaged by tree roots or that include utility castings.
- Council approved a contract with CA Agresta for the Aintree Park Drive median removal and for the paving of Garden Drive, which is currently gravel. It is being improved for ADA compliance.
- Council approved an expenditure of \$22,829.83 to cover the Lyndhurst Court deficit for the first half of this year. Since the pandemic, traffic violations are down and Court revenues are down. All cities in the court system pay their share of the deficit.

- Currently pending before Council is an ordinance to amend the misdemeanor penalty section of the code to allow the Court to order the forfeiture of a weapon that was used in a weapons offense.

Ms. Calta advised that this amendment was recommended by the Village Prosecutor with the recent law change regarding CCW permits. Mr. Gall asked if the forfeiture has to be related to a weapons offense and Ms. Calta said that it did. Mrs. Batcheller stated that she felt it should cover any kind of weapon.

The committee discussed scenarios where a misdemeanor charge could result from a weapons violation—such as not properly securing a gun in a vehicle or telling an officer, when asked, that the individual does not have a weapon and then one is found on them. Mrs. LaRiche-Goldstein said, “It’s too bad that people with weapons don’t have to disclose that anymore.” Ms. Calta responded, “That’s why the Prosecutor recommended this additional penalty.”

- Mr. Williams continued and advised that Council heard an appeal from residents who were denied a fence variance by the Board of Zoning Appeals. The residents wanted to install a 5 ft. chain link fence around their backyard and the Village’s current ordinance provides that a 4 ft. chain link fence is the maximum height allowed. Council granted the appeal and the Law Dept. and Building Dept. are taking a look at the fence ordinance to recommend ways that it may need to be updated.

Mrs. Batcheller asked why Council would grant an appeal in this situation. Mr. Williams stated that the resident’s neighbors attended the hearing and were supportive. Mrs. Batcheller stated that she has an issue with this. She knows of another resident who put up a small shed to store garbage cans and his appeal was denied by Council. She believes that if there is a law, everyone must follow it. Now the Village will be allowing everyone to have a 5 ft. chain link fence.

Mr. Gall asked how tall privacy fences are permitted to be. Mrs. Jurcisek responded that they can be up to 6 ft. tall. She added that, in the shed example, the neighbor was complaining that the shed was causing drainage issues. Mrs. Batcheller responded that she had not heard about drainage problems. She added that her neighbor built a 5-car garage and now so have others. “It opens a can of worms when you make an exception. I have issues with that.”

Mr. Williams stated that he mostly wanted to share that there is a process. “A resident appealed a long-standing ordinance and the process allowed it to change. As a result, we are looking at ways to enhance the ordinance to bring it up to date.”

Ms. Calta added that a variance is a method to ask for an exception to the rules due to unique circumstances. Mrs. Batcheller asked about the reason for the exception in this case. Ms. Calta advised that the residents were concerned about deer and thinking about installing a pool. As there was no opposition from neighbors, and the resident recently built a new home, the appeal was granted.

### **Upcoming Events**

Ms. Wolgamuth reported on the following events:

- On Monday, September 19, Mayfield School District Superintendent Mike Barnes will be at the Council meeting to present the State of the Schools. He will be here early, at 6:00 p.m., for a Coffee Talk with residents. All are welcome.
- The Trick or Treat Trail is schedule for October 15<sup>th</sup> this year, at The Grove. Volunteers are needed and anyone interested should contact the Recreation Dept.
- Trick-or-Treating in Mayfield Village will be on Monday, October 31 from 6 to 8 p.m.
- Shred Day has been moved from October 18 to November 5.

- On September 29 at 5:00 p.m., the Community Partnership on Aging is hosting a Comedy Show in Reserve Hall as a fundraiser. No detailed information has been provided yet, but it will be passed along to the Committee as soon as it arrives. Tickets are \$35 each and include refreshments.

Ms. Wolgamuth provided the Committee with a Candidates List and an Issues List from the Board of Elections for the November election. She advised that redistricting has changed the Village's House and Senate representatives. As of January 1, 2023, Mayfield Village is in Senate District 18, represented by Jerry Cerino. Senator Cerino is not up for re-election this year. Mayfield Village is now in House District 23 and there are two candidates on the ballot in November—Daniel Troy and George Phillips.

### **Other Matters**

Mr. Gall asked if the Village can pass an ordinance prohibiting Jake brakes. He believes Jake brakes are not generally allowed in cities and believes using them can be a ticketable offense. He feels that the truck sounds coming off of I-271 are very loud. Ms. Calta stated that she would look into it. There may be enforcement issues.

Mrs. Batcheller stated that she feels there is much confusion regarding NOPEC, particularly right now. Since the Village has so many seniors, she suggests that the Village provide more help to residents as it is difficult to call NOPEC directly. Ms. Wolgamuth advised that Council Clerk Mary Betsa is the Village's contact regarding NOPEC and she is happy to take calls from residents and answer any questions. She can be reached with a call to the Village's general number.

Mrs. Batcheller stated that she thinks Recreation Director Shane McAviney does a fantastic job programming The Grove and the Gazebo, however, Village residents can't get to events because it is so crowded. She and her husband went to The Grove on fireworks night at 6:30 p.m. and there was no parking left except for very distant spaces. Ms. Wolgamuth advised that a Recreation Board meeting is scheduled for next week, on September 21, and she knows that this is going to be a topic of conversation at the meeting, including whether it's time to start charging a fee to attend shows.

Mrs. Nadeau stated that she remembers the Safety for Women seminar that was hosted previously by the Police Dept. She is hopeful that the Chief will do it again soon. Mrs. Jurcisek advised that she recently mentioned it to the Chief as well and believes he is working on it.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Wolgamuth  
Director of Administration