



**Minutes of the Barrington Hills Village Communications Committee  
Meeting Number 4, October 17, 2005  
Final – approved December 19, 2005**

Chairman Beth Mallen called the meeting to order on October 17, 2005, at 5:35 p.m. in the Barrington Hills Village Hall Training Room.

**1. Roll Call of Members**

Present:

Beth Mallen, Chairman  
Nikki Panos, Vice Chairman  
Barbara Kemp, Recording Secretary  
Maureen Prettyman, Member  
Vicky Kelly, Member  
Dan Mjolsness, Member

Bob Kosin, Village Administrator, Sponsor

Absent:

Walter E. Smithe, Village Trustee Sponsor  
Lucinda Hanover, Member

Invited Guests:

Chief of Police, Fred Clauser  
Journalist, Linda Fox

**2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**Guest Speakers:**

**i. Fred Clauser, Chief of Police**

Chief Clauser provided extensive background on his educational and career background leading up to his tenure as the Barrington Hills Chief of Police. He referenced his standing in NENA and participation in the E911 Wireless Technical Standards Committee. The Chief mentioned that Bob Kosin has been a member of the NENA E911 VoIP Standards Committee and between them they are well recognized in the USA and abroad for their knowledge and leadership with respect to E911.

After accepting his position in Barrington Hills, Chief Clauser conducted a Community Survey and received a 27% return which is unprecedented, and the results led to the changes and affirmation of the program for the Village. He said Barrington Hills is unique in its volunteerism, desire for privacy, and spirit.

The Department's Policy and Procedure Manual and the Village's Accreditation. Re-accreditation takes place every three years and the next date is 2007. He stressed the "equal protection under the law" commitments and the quality of and consistency of training of all officers and staff and the high caliber of technology available to the village. He talked about the Village's Disaster Recovery and Reliability strengths, referencing the Village Hall building as a hardened site and the nearby back up site, and the three (3) deep redundancies in communications technology.

The Chief mentioned the departmental staffing requirements for a typical town with the land mass of Barrington Hills and how he manages with a focused small force given the village's resident and the transient population. He said there are 4000 living residents and between 30K and 40K transients who use the roads and trails of Barrington Hills daily. He has the luxury of being able to manage risks efficiently given the profile of the community and its history.

**Top Successes:**

1. Rebuilding the Communications Center
2. Development and Training
3. Traffic Safety – Holistic and Systematic Approach – results in 1<sup>st</sup> in the State Award.  
Focus on car seats saving lives, St. Mark's program
4. Accreditation – 1<sup>st</sup> in McHenry County
5. Lock Up Improvements – facilities overhaul to meet State Standards
6. Wireless E911 Implementation

**Major Programs:**

1. D.A.R.E
2. Crime Prevention
3. Block Captain
4. Home Security

**Assignment**

1. Check out Mapquest – inaccuracies in BH – reason the Village uses 70 mile radius maps. Find 112 Algonquin Road.

Beth thanked the Chief for his detailed presentation and indicated his office and officers will be the major subject in the fourth Quarter Barrington Hills Newsletter. Linda Fox will be doing the in depth interviews and the article will include pictures of the Department and Officers.

**ii. Linda Fox**

Linda Fox is a resident of Barrington Hills and has past experience as a journalist and feature writer with a newspaper in North Carolina. She volunteered to serve as a consultant to the Communications team, and to provide proof reader services for the Village Newsletter. Her first assignment will be the feature article on Chief Clauser.

Linda's reach information: (847)381-5438 –home (847) 344-0068-cellular,lfox@active-elec.com

Beth thanked Linda for her offer and the whole team looks forward to working with her on future Projects.

### 3. OLD BUSINESS

#### Minutes of Prior Meetings

The minutes of the prior meetings, August 22, 2005 Draft and September 26, 2005 Draft, were emailed with the Agenda Beth prepared for the October, 2005 Meeting and they were printed for review. Corrections were agreed upon: the spelling of Nikki Panos' name on the August minutes. No other corrections were suggested. Barbara will ask Bob Kosin if the minutes are to be uploaded to the Village website and ensure they are loaded if required.

Dan made a motion to approve the set of minutes as amended, seconded by Vicky. Motion. Approved. (6-0-1).

#### Newsletter 3Q 05

Beth received detailed comments on the Newsletter from Penny Horne, and subsequently invited Penny to the October 17 meeting if she wishes to volunteer her services. All comments are appreciated in the interest of continuous process improvement.

There were five (5) requests for email versions of the Newsletter. Nikki Panos will manage the future distribution with the help of the Village Clerk.

Note: Bob Abboud stopped by to informally address the Communications Committee before the meeting and he thanked the Committee for the fine efforts. He said the Trustees agree the Newsletter efforts were much easier for them and they would like the process to continue.

### 4. NEW BUSINESS

#### Trustee Reports

##### Gohl – Vicky

The Village was quoted in a Chicago Tribune article, October 13, 2005 regarding the request to bring all of the students from Barrington Hills into School District 220. The Village is meeting with District 300; the initial meeting was held on October 17. Bob Abboud indicated the primary issues are financial, historical and the bureaucratic challenges faced by such a plan per Dr. Arndt. Discussion continues. The article is inserted as a reference.

#### District denies secession bid Barrington Hills wants single school system

##### By Tim Kane

Special to the Tribune  
*Published October 13, 2005*

Barrington Hills wants to transfer 1,000 acres of the village from a financially struggling Carpentersville-based school district to a Barrington-based district that serves most of the community.

But the request is running into stiff opposition from Community Unit School District 300, which would lose about \$600,000 a year in real estate tax revenue if the property were disconnected.

Barrington Hills Trustee Fritz Gohl raised the issue at a District 300 board meeting this week because he said school officials had refused to consider the request. The McHenry County portion of Barrington Hills is in District 300.

The change would affect about 13 pupils, Gohl said

Barrington Hills approached District 300 Supt. Kenneth Arndt with the request several months ago and Arndt said no, Gohl said

"Since 1948 when the district was formed, it has been the practice not to seek the addition or disconnection of land from the district," Arndt said Wednesday. "It would be a financial loss to us. Property values in Barrington Hills are higher than most land in District 300, higher than most land in the Chicagoland area."

The owner of a \$1 million property in the McHenry County portion of Barrington Hills pays about \$12,180 a year in real estate taxes to District 300. The same property would pay about \$11,200 to School District 220 if the disconnection were approved, said Donald Robinson, an assistant superintendent for District 220.

Robert Abboud, village president of Barrington Hills, which sprawls over 19,000 acres in the northwest suburbs, said the reason for the request to disconnect was more about community identity than money. He said village trustees want students in Barrington Hills to go to the Barrington district. He also said schools in District 300 are overcrowded and the district has \$26 million in debt.

John Court, president of the District 300 school board, said he would meet with Barrington Hills trustees but reiterated that district policy is to oppose disconnections.

Remainder of Trustees – Nothing to report at this time; no responses to the requests for information; the next Newsletter is due in December.

## **5. Website**

### **Vicky and Dan**

The Newsletter is constrained by the rules affecting .gov sites. Illinois standards are in place and the Barrington Library handles the Newsletter for the Village. North Star Net is the free host, a not for profit organization. They are aware of the restrictions and compliance standards. Dan is setting up a meeting with Terry Mills at the Barrington Library to address changes. They will report back to the Committee on or before the next meeting.

#### **Focus:**

- Prioritize the top areas people want to see
- One Click to Resource Center
- Look at other Municipalities

- Reduce download requirements – currently 40 to 50 items to download
- Evaluate use of graphics files and time to download since some residents do not have broadband services
- Balance Graphics and Text
- Add in a FAQ page
- Reference Professional Sites
- Speak to the lowest common denominator
- Ensure the Newsletter can be located.
- Plan to ask Terry Mills for a demonstration of sample pages

The Focus areas below were adjusted to show Dan Mjolsness as a secondary on the Website.

Focus Area	Primary	Secondary
1. Newsletter	Nikki Panos	Vicky Kelly
2. Website	Vicky Kelly	Nikki Panos, Dan Mjolsness
3. Public Meetings and Special Events	Lucinda Hanover	Maureen Prettyman
4. External Promotion	Maureen Prettyman	Lucinda Hanover
5. Technology	Barbara Kemp	Dan Mjolsness

**8. Public Meeting/Special Event**

Lucinda could not be at the meeting. She volunteered to plan the first special event, a Holiday Party at the Village Hall in mid December. She received concurrence from Walter E. Smithe on the plan for villagers to meet the Trustees.

The Committee agreed to set the date aside ASAP. Beth will communicate the priority to Lucinda so she can proceed with date confirmation and let us know what we need to do to prepare. The planned party time is 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The party will be mid week and before school is out December 19.

**Date Choices:**

1. December 14, Wednesday
2. December 13 Tuesday
3. December 15, Thursday

**9. External Promotion**

Barbara offered to contact Lisa Stamos, the editor of *Quintessential Barrington* to see if they are interested in an article promoting the Village in a future magazine. Beth indicated a coffee is one idea to get us started without waiting for a future meeting.

Investigate getting external promotion. Dan so motioned, seconded by Maureen. Approved (6-0-1).

**10. Dismissal:**

Beth Mallen entertained a motion for dismissal at 7:55 p.m. The next meeting is on Monday, in November 21, 2005, at 5:30 p.m. Barbara so motioned and Maureen seconded. Motion Approved (6-0-1).

Meeting Adjourned

**Approved: \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Communications Committee Meeting 4**  
**October 17, 2005**