

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
November 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM**

President Hayes called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Hayes; Trustees Baldino, Bertucci, LaBedz, Grasse, Scaletta, Schwingbeck and Tinaglia

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Canty

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Village Manager Randy Recklaus

OTHERS PRESENT: Matthew Allaire, Heather Larson, Michelle Harris, Laurie Mitchell and Melissa Cayer

**A. Interview of Matthew Allaire for appointment to the Youth Commission (youth member) – term ending 4/30/2022**

The Mayor introduced Matthew Allaire. He stated that Matthew is very active at school and in the community as well. The Mayor thanked Matthew for his willingness to serve and asked that he introduce himself.

Matthew stated that he is currently in a Government class at school and went to a Civic Forum with class which then sparked his interest in local government. Discussion ensued on what Matthew would like to see within the Youth Commission. Matthew stated that one item he sees with those his age is that they don't engage with people around them and that he would like to explore ways that youth can be more involved. Trustees thanked Matthew for his willingness to help others his age to understand local government and be the voice of the youth and the youth commission. Matthew was encouraged to find another representative for the commission when he graduates.

**Trustee LaBedz moved to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Matthew Allaire for appointment to the Youth Commission (youth member) – term ending 4/30/2022. Trustee Schwingbeck seconded the motion.**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**The motion passed.**

**B. Interview of Heather Larson for appointment to the Arlington Economic Alliance, Convention and Visitor's Bureau Representative – term ending 4/30/2024**

The Mayor stated that he realized many on the Board probably already know Heather Larson as the new President of Meet Chicago Northwest. The Mayor explained that this role on the Arlington Economic Alliance is specifically for the President of Meet Chicago Northwest.

The Trustees thanked Ms. Larson for what she does with Meet Chicago Northwest and for filling this role on the Arlington Economic Alliance. Ms. Larson discussed her role and stated that Meet Chicago NW focuses on what does the city look like from a visitor's point of view, not a resident's point of view. She highlighted that Meet Chicago NW represents eight

communities. Ms. Larson pointed out work with Restaurant Week, working with the cluster of hotels in Arlington Heights, as well as working with various Arlington Heights businesses. Trustees discussed their experiences with Meet Chicago NW as a whole and working with Ms. Larson as well as how important the tourism bureau is to the Village.

**Trustee Scaletta moved to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Heather Larson for appointment to the Arlington Economic Alliance, Convention and Visitor's Representative – term ending 4/30/2024. Trustee Bertucci seconded the motion.**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**  
**The motion passed.**

**0 Nays**

**C. Interview of Michelle Harris for appointment to the Special Event Commission – term ending 4/30/2025**

The Mayor introduced Michelle Harris. The Mayor stated she is very well qualified with volunteer activities and fundraising.

Michelle Harris stated she and her husband both grew up in the area. Ms. Harris said that when Laurie Mitchell approached her about the opportunity, it was perfect timing as she had just finished volunteering in another role and was looking for a way to give back to the community. Ms. Harris said it will be nice to be a part of something that has been so important to her family. Trustees thanked Ms. Harris for her willingness to serve and give back to the community. Discussion ensued regarding the Special Events Commission working with all aspects of the community, businesses and residents.

**Trustee Grasse moved to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Michelle Harris for appointment to the Special Events Commission – term ending 4/30/25. Trustee Baldino seconded the motion.**

The Mayor asked for questions from the Board or audience. Melissa Cayer asked about the type of work and how many hours are required for the Special Events Commission. The Mayor explained that this commission is a little different than others as they actual execute and run events such as Tree Lighting and Hearts of Gold Event. The Mayor stated they do meet once a month.

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**  
**The motion passed.**

**0 Nays**

**D. OTHER BUSINESS – Ms. Cayer stated that she feels that the Hearts of Gold Banquet is expensive and few people benefit. The Mayor said that he disagrees as it is not a money-making opportunity and there is tremendous benefit to the community in recognizing the community volunteers. Ms. Cayer suggested changing it to everyone getting a trophy.**

**E. ADJOURNMENT – Trustee Tinaglia moved, seconded by Trustee Scaletta to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.**