

**NOTES FROM GOVERNANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

**TO: TRANSITION SUBCOMMITTEE**

**FROM: ROBERT S. SCHEIN**

**RE: GOVERNANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

**DATE: JANUARY 30, 2009**

---

Members present were Mike Deiss, Tim Haak, Rob Schein from the Transition Committee and Candace Ulmer, Judith Essex, Carla Sanford, Connie Brye.

**Meeting location at Starbucks in Zionsville at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, January 26, 2009**

There was a general discussion of overall scope of the role of the Governance Subcommittee and how to effectuate the transfer of assets, responsibilities and other concerns with the consolidation of Township Government. The following were a list of agenda items to discussed and considered:

- List of Assets
  - Candace Ulmer suggested the Townships provide a list of assets and transfer of assets to be coordinated as soon as possible in order to address some of the legislation being presented which could mandate township government to transfer assets by June 30, 2009.
  - It was discussed whether we have to have a resolution in advance of that?
  - This is an item that was suggested may need legislative and/or legal assistance.
- Building Corporation issue with Union Township
  - Candace Ulmer also raised the building corporation issue with respect to the bonds in place in Union Township.
  - Specifically, can we transfer the assets to the Volunteer Fire Department or another non-profit entity within the Town of Zionsville?
  - Are there requirements in the bond documents which would prevent this?

- What notice requirements, if any, are in place?
- It was suggested that we retain a copy of those bond documents and follow-up with Chief VanGorder and other public officials to discuss procedurally the mechanism that they would suggest.
- It was also suggested that this may be an agenda item that would require outside legal counsel.
- Cemeteries
  - There was limited discussion on the Cemetery responsibility and a question on which department within the new Town of Zionsville this would transition.
  - It was suggested that the Parks Department may be a logical department for this.
  - It was also suggested that the Township Trustees Essex and Ulmer obtain the deeds for each of the cemeteries which the Township governments are charged.
  - It was also discussed to the extent that there were deeds not in the presence of the township governments that we may be able to obtain copies of those at the Recorder's Office in Boone County.
  - It was also suggested that Lawyers Title, Land America, Rob Thomas may be helpful to assist in this regard.
- Township Assistance
  - There was also a discussion on how to handle the responsibility of township assistance.
  - It was discussed that there were some concern to keep this government mandated position within the localized New Town of Zionsville rather than having it go to the County level.
  - As it's contemplated under the plan of reorganization, this would fall on the responsibility of the Clerk of the Town and at this time that would be John Yeo.
  - It was also discussed that individuals would look into updating the township assistance guidelines and in particular the poverty guidelines.
- The Library Board

- There was some discussion by Carla Sanford about looking into whether or not the Library Board and its taxing authority can be brought within the local responsibility of the New Town of Zionsville.
- It was discussed that would be something to consider.
- The Districts of the New Town of Zionsville
  - There was discussion under the plan of reorganization that you would have 5 districts with 2 at large positions.
  - There was a question raised about whether it would be possible to mandate that one of the 2 at large positions be designated from the rural designation. After some further discussions it was agreed that this would be something to consider.
  - There were also discussions on having term limits within the Town Council and if this would be possible – perhaps 8 years.
  - To the extent that this would be a viable option it was discussed that there would certainly need to be staggered elections in this regard.
- Appointed Committees by Town
  - It was further discussed that the respective appointed positions by the Town of Zionsville and the make up of each of these be looked at into again as to how the study committee contemplated things and to analyze the makeup of each of those boards.
  - Those committees that were discussed were the Plan Commission, the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Parks Board.
  - It was discussed again that the goal would be to maintain the make up of the committees based on geography rather than population as it related to the Plan Commission.
  - It was determined that we need to get a break-down of each of the groups and how appointed and look into it further.
- Budget for Professional Services
  - It was also discussed that the finance subcommittee would like an estimated budget from each of the subcommittees.

- The group agreed that it would consider a list of anticipated fees and see if it could come up with an estimate in advance of the next meeting on February 11, 2009.

**After closing remarks it was agreed that the Government Subcommittee would meet again on Wednesday, February 11 at 7:45 at the Zionsville Town Hall.**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:45 p.m.