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How the Glencoe Caucus System Works

How do our elected officials, those who govern the Village, Park, Library and School Boards get nominated to run for office? For more than 83 years, most of these representatives have been nominated to represent you through the Glencoe Caucus.

Growing out of the turmoil that pitted neighbors against neighbors in contested elections for these positions, the Glencoe Caucus system for selecting candidates to our local boards was started in 1936. Sensitive to political factions and the hostilities that carried over following elections, residents initiated the caucus system, where neighbors rely on neighbors to vet candidates for these important positions in our community. This process has rendered an extraordinary history of finding candidates who represent the best interests of the community in their roles as elected officials.

How does it work? Representatives to the Glencoe Caucus are elected from their designated precincts to vet candidates for office through interviews, calls to references and considerable deliberation about candidate qualifications. Candidates are not selected because of previous positions or expertise, but by their sincere interest and ability to provide reasoned and thoughtful consideration of the things that impact the people of the Village. Clearly, our elected officials, who establish policy to carry out the important functions for the Village, Park District, Library and School, have a great influence on our daily lives. As residents of Glencoe, our best efforts are to not only find those who make these decisions, but make sure they are people who are suited, by virtue of their integrity, ability and experience to deal with their significant responsibilities.

In a nation filled with political unrest, conflict and polarization, Glencoe forefathers had the foresight and wisdom to find a way for neighbors to be neighbors in developing a candidate selection process that represents the best interest of the people who live here. The Glencoe Caucus system has proven to be the means to find people just like you who are too busy to take on another obligation, but care enough about Glencoe to make sure that the future of their community is vested into the hands of people who share the interest of keeping their community great! Get involved; contact the Caucus at glencoecaucusAC@gmail.com.