

**Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve Master Plan Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 10, 2010**

The Lake County Forest Preserves Fort Sheridan Master Plan Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, February 10, 2010. The meeting was held at the Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, Illinois.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Carol Calabresa, Chair
Anne Flanigan Bassi, Commissioner
Michelle Feldman, Commissioner
Susan Loving Gravenhorst, Commissioner
James Cowhey, Mayor
City of Lake Forest
Bob Kiely, City Manager
City of Lake Forest
Michael Belsky, Mayor
City of Highland Park
David Limardi, City Manager
City of Highland Park
Liza McElroy, Executive Director
Park District of Highland Park
Lorenz Werhane, President
Park District of Highland Park
Charlie Pecaro, Mayor
City of Highwood
Greg Jackson, City Manager
City of Highwood
Sandy Hart, Vice President
Lake Bluff Park District
Ron Salski, Executive Director
Lake Bluff Park District
Ralph Pfaff, President
Town of Fort Sheridan Homeowners Assoc.

ALSO PRESENT:

Bonnie Thomson Carter, President
Tom Hahn, Executive Director
Andrew Kimmel, Deputy Executive Director
Nan Buckardt, Director
Environmental Education & Public Affairs
Bonnie McLeod, Director
Finance
Daniel Prezell, Director
Revenue Facilities
Randy Seebach, Land Development Manager
Susan Parks, Facilitator

1. Call to Order

There being a quorum present, Chair Calabresa called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Calabresa welcomed the group and thanked them for their participation. She provided some background on why the committee was formed and reminded them that they are charged with developing a master plan recommendation for the Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve to be sent to the Forest Preserve Board for consideration. She informed the public that they were welcome to submit written comments on the forms provided. She then introduced Susan Parks of Parks Consulting Group, who had been hired after it was agreed upon at the December meeting that the process would benefit by help from an outside facilitator. Her role will be to facilitate the discussion and lead the process to meet the Board's directive. Chair Calabresa then had the Committee members introduce themselves and state who they represent.

3. Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Gravenhorst, second by Commissioner Feldman, to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2009, meeting. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

4. Facilitator Process Review

Facilitator, Susan Parks provided a recap of the interviews she had previously conducted with each of the Committee members. She concluded that there were many divergent opinions and stated that the group must work toward alignment to reach a consensus.

5. Discussion of Committee Objective and Working Protocol

Ms. Parks provided a list of proposed Committee protocols which outlined expectations for open and honest participation with discussions based on facts, mutual understanding, respect, compromising to reach solutions, shared responsibility and proposed session rules of one conversation at a time with no interruptions. She encouraged the Committee to first concentrate on “what” should be done and then work toward “how” it should be done.

6. Discussion of Overall Goals

At the direction of Ms. Parks, Committee members discussed what they expected to be included in the master plan for Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve. Whether or not the interests of nearby residents should outweigh those of the entire county was considered. Committee members asked for additional information from the Forest Preserve District, including the deed restrictions and financial information from the District. Forest Preserve representatives said the information would be provided to the Committee. It was noted that the District budget and audit are also accessible on the District’s website. In response to questions regarding funding, Forest Preserve representatives stated that only enterprise funds are used to build and operate golf courses, not tax dollars, and that no enterprise funds are used for general forest preserve public uses.

7. Brainstorm on Ideas

Susan Parks asked the Committee members to brainstorm and each write down ideas of what they would like to see in the master Fort Sheridan plan. She then had them choose their top two and bottom two choices from the suggestions. She collected all responses and reviewed them with the members. She said she will compile and categorize them to create a structure that she will provide to the members to identify potential scenarios for the site.

8. Summarize and review next steps

Ms. Parks stated that she believed that there were certain common areas of agreement. She told the group that a draft of the notes from the session, including the results of brainstorming, would be sent to them for their review and comment before the next meeting. The composition of the group, specifically the inclusion of organizations not part of the original agreement, was questioned and discussed. The Committee agreed to pursue the next steps and to meet again for further discussion.

9. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at the Gorton Community Center in Lake Forest.

10. Adjourn

It was the consensus of the Committee to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Approved date: