



PLANNING AND RESTORATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of Monday, June 27, 2016

The Lake County Forest Preserve District's Planning and Restoration Committee met on Monday, June 26, 2016. The meeting was convened at the District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

Committee Members Present:

Nick Sauer, Vice Chair
Bill Durkin
Sandra Hart
Diane Hewitt
Craig Taylor
Tom Weber

Also Present:

Alex Ty Kovach
Mike Tully
Randy Seebach
Jim Anderson
Steve Neaman
Katherine Hamilton-Smith
Nan Buckardt
Mary Kann
Rebekah Snyder
Debra Ramai
Helena Keller
Amber Munday, *Holland & Knight*

Committee Members Absent:

Bonnie Thomson Carter, Chair
Carol Calabresa
Sid Mathias

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Sauer called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2016

Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Weber to approve the Minutes of the June 6, 2016 meeting. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Minutes were circulated for signatures.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5.0 ADDED TO THE AGENDA - None

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE - None

7.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Executive Director Kovach presented an update of District projects, news and upcoming events.

Sustainability

- ❖ Director Neaman has been responding to bond rating calls from *Moody's* and *Standard & Poor's* as part of the analysis that these agencies use to determine whether the District will maintain its AAA bond rating. The results look promising as both agencies were impressed with the District's new policy to project financial forecasts and the CIP ten years out, and were pleased that the District is slowing the planned reduction of fund balances to the last part of the 10-year forecast. Ratings are due to be released later in the day (Monday, June 27).
- ❖ In the first two weeks following the mailing of the summer issue of Horizons, 36 donations were received, raising almost \$4,000 in support of the Blanding's Turtle adoption program.

Public Access and Connections

- ❖ Due to the State's inability to pass a budget, the Illinois Department of Transportation communicated that all consultant and construction projects will be shut down at the completion of business on June 30, 2016 if a stopgap budget is not passed. This could affect two District projects: Lyons Woods Trail Connection (to be let January 2017) and the Middlefork Savanna Pedestrian Bridge (to be let



September 2016). If the budget situation is not resolved before these projects are scheduled to be let, they could be pushed farther into the future.

- ❖ Museum staff has installed an exhibit case on the south wall of the Committee meeting room that will contain artifacts from the Museum's collection. The idea is to create a visual connection to Lake County history. Exhibits will be periodically switched out. The current exhibit focuses on the County's relationship to the U.S. Army and Navy.

Leadership

- ❖ The District has won two awards in the annual APEX Award for Excellence in Graphic Design competition. The Grand Award in the *Campaigns, Programs and Plans* category was captured by the Oak Ecosystems Recovery Plan, and the Award of Excellence in the *Print Newsletters* category was won by Horizons Magazine. The Executive Director congratulated Allison Frederick (not present) for her work, in collaboration with Director Jim Anderson and The Morton Arboretum, and to the entire Public Affairs team for the Horizons award.

Communication, Education and Outreach

- ❖ A public open house will be held at the Green Youth Farm at Greenbelt Forest Preserve on Wednesday, August 3 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The farm exists as a joint effort between the District, the Preservation Foundation and the Chicago Botanic Garden. At the open house, tours will be led by students, and there will be farm-fresh snacks to sample.
- ❖ The 25th Annual Civil War Days will be held at Lakewood Forest Preserve on Saturday, July 9 and Sunday, July 10.
- ❖ The District's Science Explorers in Nature program is currently underway at Greenbelt Forest Preserve. This is a free summer science program where Lake County students in grades 6-8 learn about local ecosystems, explore Lake County Forest Preserves, and get a head start on science classes for the upcoming year. Bus transportation, lunch, and snacks are all provided.

8.0 OLD BUSINESS - None

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Waukegan and the Waukegan Park District for the Lyons Woods Trail Connection

After review and discussion, motion by member Hewitt, second by member Durkin to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was circulated for signatures and forwarded to the Finance and Administrative Committee for approval.

9.2 Monthly Department Report – Natural Resources Department

Director Jim Anderson updated the Committee on the District's efforts to eradicate buckthorn through a pilot project with the U.S. Forest Service's State and Private Forestry Grant Program and the ChiCal Grant Fund. Additional funding for the project has been received from the Uline family.

The Native Seed Nursery has begun seed collection with staff and volunteers and is receiving seed orders for fall plantings. Shade cloth has been installed over the woodland planting beds.

Ongoing projects include the District-wide Invasive Species Control project, wildlife monitoring, vegetation monitoring for the deer management program, and ecologists are monitoring clearing projects for follow-up herbiciding of resprouts.

Trumpeter swans have been spotted nesting at Rollins Savanna Forest Preserve. This is the first observation of the more rare native species of swans in Lake County.



9.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the Small Invasive Tree and Shrub Control 2017 to Applied Ecological Services, Inc., Brodhead, Wisconsin, in the Contract Price of \$381,824.00

After review and discussion, motion by member Durkin, second by member Weber to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was circulated for signatures and forwarded to the Finance and Administrative Committee for approval.

9.4 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for Hydrologic Analysis with Design Services and Agricultural Drain Tile Investigation at Cuba Marsh, Ray Lake and Wadsworth Savanna Forest Preserves to Hey and Associates, Inc., Volo, Illinois, in the Contract Price of \$99,265.00

After review and discussion, motion by member Weber, second by member Hart to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was circulated for signatures and forwarded to the Finance and Administrative Committee for approval.

10.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

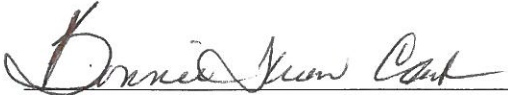


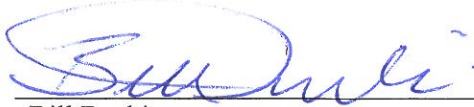


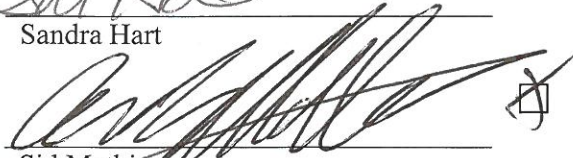
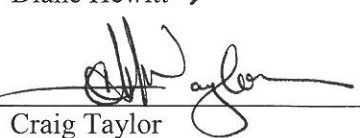

12.0 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 1, 2016.

13.0 ADJOURN

With no further business before the Committee, motion by member Durkin, second by member Weber to adjourn. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and Vice Chair Sauer adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

PLANNING AND RESTORATION COMMITTEE:

	YEA	NAY		YEA	NAY
 Bonnie Thomson Carter, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Nick Sauer, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Carol Calabresa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Bill Durkin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Sandra Hart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Diane Hewitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Sid Mathias	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Craig Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Tom Weber	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			