



PLANNING AND RESTORATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of Monday, August 1, 2016

The Lake County Forest Preserve District's Planning and Restoration Committee met on Monday, August 1, 2016. The meeting was convened at the District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

Committee Members Present:

Bonnie Thomson Carter, Chair
Nick Sauer, Vice-Chair
Carol Calabresa
Bill Durkin
Sandra Hart
Diane Hewitt
Sid Mathias
Craig Taylor
Tom Weber

Also Present:

Ann Maine, President
Alex Ty Kovach
Mike Tully
Randy Seebach
Jim Anderson
Steve Neaman
Katherine Hamilton-Smith
Nan Buckardt
John Nelson
Mary Kann
Debra Ramai
Helena Keller
Matt Norton, *Holland & Knight*

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Carter called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Member Hart led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 ADDED TO THE AGENDA - None

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

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

Sustainability and Development

- ❖ Submission of a grant application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Chi-Cal Rivers Fund for \$290,901 to support a buckthorn eradication pilot project at Middlefork Savanna and adjacent lands. If awarded, grant funds would be matched by a \$350,000 gift from an individual donor, labor of District staff (estimated at \$38,000) and program partners (Abbott, Chicago Bears and Lake Forest Academy, estimated at \$32,000).

Communication, Education and Outreach

- ❖ Outreach occurred when Commissioner Pedersen, Director Seebach and Executive Director Kovach reached out to the leadership of the Village of Antioch regarding a long-range vision for that area, and ideas were exchanged.
- ❖ The County-Wide Attitudes and Interest Survey is complete. Results show 76% of respondents gave the District positive esteem ratings, report being "completely satisfied", and with high levels of trust and confidence in fiscal management.
- ❖ The results of the internal survey of District staff's overall job satisfaction, in relation to the top 10 "Best Places to Work in Illinois" initiative, are being reviewed and will be revealed at an all-staff meeting in September with the objective being how to move forward with improving its low scoring of leadership. Chair Carter requested that the Board be informed of the results, as well.
- ❖ The District has been in communication with Landmarks Illinois following the placement of the farm buildings at Lakewood on their annual list of the *Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois*,



informing them that the focus is now on protecting and providing future access to the Museum collections. The District has requested from them any documentation they have that will assist in its planning process and to ensure that the Board has accurate information to make informed decisions regarding the issues.

Member Weber joined the meeting at 1:42 p.m.

- ❖ Gospel Fest again produced outstanding vocalist and gospel groups. Fred Fest will take place on Saturday, August 20 from 1:00 p.m. to dusk at Fox River Forest Preserve.

6.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 27, 2016

Motion by member Sauer, second by member Hart to approve the Minutes of the June 27, 2016 meeting. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Minutes were circulated for signatures.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE - None

8.0 OLD BUSINESS - None

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Approve a Resolution authorizing an Agreement with the Big Sag Wetland Conservancy, Inc. for the purchase of wetland credits for the Everett Road Trail Connection in the amount of \$57,225.00 at Captain Daniel Wright Woods Forest Preserve

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

9.2 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Joint Funding Agreement with U.S. Geological Survey for Sediment and Stream Gauge Monitoring at Ethel's Woods Forest Preserve

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

9.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the Native Cover Crop Seed Purchase Fall 2016 for the Southern Des Plaines River Sites to Shooting Star Native Seeds, Spring Grove, Minnesota, in the Contract Price of \$24,077.50

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

9.4 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the Phase I Clearing at Van Patten Forest Preserve to Integrated Lakes Management, Inc., Waukegan, Illinois, in the Contract Price of \$99,928.60

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

9.5 Recommend approval of Resolution awarding a Contract for the Habitat Restoration Phase 4 Clearing at Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area to V3 Construction Group, Ltd., Woodridge, Illinois, in the Contract Price of \$120,120.00



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

9.6 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the Woodland Restoration at Lyons Woods Forest Preserve to Integrated Lakes Management, Inc., Waukegan, Illinois, in the Contract Price of \$44,000.09

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 forwarded to the Finance and Administrative Committee for approval.

9.7 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for Forestry Mowing 2016 (McLean) at Lakewood Forest Preserve to Applied Ecological Services, Inc., Brodhead, Wisconsin, in the Contract Price of \$32,600.00

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

9.8 Monthly Department Report – Jim Anderson, Director of Natural Resources

Director Anderson reported on the following:

- ❖ Staff has met with the District's partners Abbott Laboratories, Lake Forest Academy and the Chicago Bears on the "Eradicate Buckthorn Pilot Project".
- ❖ Grant funding opportunities through the USEPA are being sought for the North Mill Creek Restoration project.
- ❖ Work with Blanding's Turtles is now being supported with a \$111,002 Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act Grant awarded to Northern Illinois University, in partnership with the District. Ecologists have collected 143 turtle eggs from 10 females for captive rearing, have documented 11 nest sites (only 4 were depredated), and have encountered a record 142 Blanding's Turtles in lake plain preserves (up from last year's record of 127), making it the largest known population in the state.
- ❖ Nursery staff, YCC and volunteers have planted over 7,000 plugs of native plant species, some very rare, in the nursery, wild beds and preserves.
- ❖ Regular ongoing projects include District-wide invasive species control, wildlife and vegetation monitoring, monitoring of clearing projects for follow-up herbiciding of resprouts. An Illinois Coastal Management Grant cooperative effort between the District, the Alliance for Great Lakes, and the Audubon Chicago Region has increased stewardship participation for restoration at Greenbelt, a preserve that has had no previous natural resource stewardship.

Chair Carter left the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and Vice Chair Sauer took over the meeting.

10.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by member Calabresa, second by member Durkin at 2:01 p.m. to enter into executive session for the purpose of semi-annual review regarding the release or retention of closed session minutes, and the retention of erasure of verbatim recordings. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The Committee entered executive session at 2:02 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:08 p.m.

12.0 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 29, 2016.



13.0 ADJOURN

With no further business before the Committee, motion by member Mathias, second by member Calabresa to adjourn. Vice Chair Sauer adjourned the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

PLANNING AND RESTORATION COMMITTEE:


YEA NAY

YEA NAY


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