

**Lake County Forest Preserve District  
Land Preservation & Acquisition Committee  
February 1, 2016 - Open Session Minutes**

The Lake County Forest Preserves Land Preservation & Acquisition Committee met on Monday, February 1, 2016. The meeting was held at the District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

**1.0 Call to order** – With a quorum of the Committee present, Chair Carol Calabresa called the meeting to order at 10:47 am.

**Committee Members Present:**

Carol Calabresa, *Chair*  
Steve Mandel, *Vice Chair*  
Bonnie Thomson Carter  
Linda Pedersen  
Tom Weber  
Jeff Werfel  
Terry Wilke

**Also Present:**

Ann B. Maine, *President*  
Nick Sauer  
Alex Ty Kovach  
Randy Seebach  
Ken Jones  
Mike Tully  
Rebecca Hegner  
Steve Neaman  
Jim Anderson  
Katherine Hamilton-Smith  
Jim Ballowe  
Mary Kann  
Rebekah Snyder  
Julie Gragnani  
Matt Norton, *Holland & Knight*  
Frank Abderholden, *News Sun*  
Mick Zawislak, *Daily Herald*

**2.0 Pledge of Allegiance** – Member Pedersen led the pledge of allegiance.

**3.0 Public Comment** – None

**4.0 Addenda to the Agenda** – None

**5.0 Correspondence** – None

**6.0 Executive Director Comments** – Executive Director Kovach distributed a report and commented on:

- Preservation Foundation Planned Giving update;
- Illinois Coastal Management Program grant proposal for Blandings Turtle monitoring at Illinois Beach/RAMSAR wetland area;
- \$100,000 commitment from donor for pilot buckthorn removal project;
- First Folio event at Museum on February 2;
- Recent leadership team meeting to identify endowment and project opportunities for the Foundation;
- Recent all-staff meeting focusing on the core value of Communication;
- Annual volunteer recognition event on February 27 at Greenbelt Cultural Center;
- Staff due diligence visit to Newberry Library as possible future home of Teich Postcard collection;
- Profiles in Excellence on February 7 at Greenbelt Cultural Center;
- Recent meeting with legislative consultant;
- Legislative Breakfast on February 26 at Lake Bluff Park District.

**7.0 Approve Minutes** – Motion by member Wilke, second by member Pedersen to approve the minutes from January 4, 2016, open and closed sessions. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

**8.0 Bills and Requisitions** – Chair Calabresa circulated the December Quarles & Brady invoice for signature approval.

**9.0 New Business**

9.1 Approve motion to (i) release Committee closed session minutes, (ii) retain as confidential all other Committee closed session minutes not previously released, and (iii) erase Verbatim Recordings, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and the District's Policy on Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Records, as provided in Exhibit 1 to staff's memo dated February 1, 2016 – Executive Director Kovach noted that no minutes were recommended for release, and that four eligible recordings should be erased. Motion by member Carter, second by member Wilke to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

9.2 Policy Direction regarding Verizon Cell Tower Lease Extension Request at Bluebird Meadow – Mr. Kovach summarized a request from American Tower Corp. to extend its lease on the cell tower located in Bluebird Meadow. American Tower was provided the terms by which the District would be willing to consider new cell tower agreements. Mr. Kovach felt their request should be denied because of their: 1) unwillingness to consider any revenue-sharing plan where they would be required to pay an additional annual fee for each additional carrier added to the tower; and 2) unwillingness to accept the District's right to terminate the license without consideration prior to each renewal period, or with consideration at any time. He asked for committee direction on whether to engage in further due diligence, discussions and negotiations with American Tower. Mr. Kovach responded to questions and a general discussion ensued regarding future trends in the cell tower business. The consensus of the committee was to deny the request because it would not follow current guidelines.

9.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution adopting the Annual Budget Policies and Annual Strategic Action Plan for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 - Mr. Neaman reviewed the revisions on each page of the draft document. He also noted the changes made earlier in the day by the Education, Cultural Resources and Public Affairs Committee. During review and discussion the committee made the following changes:

- 1) Page 8, #1.1.3 – change “where appropriate” to “when appropriate”; add language to include park districts and townships with municipalities.
- 2) Page 8, #2.2.4 – add “and energy efficiency initiatives” after conservation.
- 3) Page 9, #2.2.1 – delete the word “aging”

After discussion, motion by member Carter, second by member Mandel to approve the recommendation, supporting the changes made by the Education, Cultural Resources and Public Affairs Committee, and including the changes made by the Land Preservation and Acquisition Committee. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously; the recommendation was forwarded to the Planning and Restoration Committee.

9.4 Review proposed changes to the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as part of the FY 2016-2017 budget process – President Maine and Chair Calabresa made opening remarks and Director Randy Seebach summarized the 11 projects completed during the past year. He then noted the 12 adjustments to existing funded projects listed on the recommendation, and in the interest of time he summarized five projects discussed at the joint Finance and Planning Committee meeting: Millennium Trail-Rollins Road Crossing +\$250,000; Millennium Trail-Grand Avenue Crossing +\$173,000; Spring Bluff Wildlife Observation Area (\$160,000); Upper DPR-USACE Phase II Ecosystem Restoration (\$3,000,000); Waukegan Savanna Phase I +\$450,000; and Wright Woods/McArthur Woods Dam Removal +\$690,000. A general discussion ensued on the Waukegan Savanna dog exercise area project. Member Carter felt the project costs need to come down. President Maine noted that at the joint meeting staff was directed to bid the project with alternates to keep the costs down, and reminded everyone that people will also be using the site, it's not just a “dog park”. Mr. Seebach noted that this area is designed for safety and durable use that will last, where other dog exercise area paths experience erosion and flooding, driving up maintenance costs and creating safety issues.

Mr. Seebach then summarized the five potential new projects recommended for funding or added to the CIP as listed on the recommendation memo. Regarding project #5 District-wide reforestation, Chair Calabresa

requested that some money be allocated for planting oaks at Independence Grove along Milwaukee Avenue. Mr. Kovach made closing remarks, noting that the CIP will be in the red by Year 6; staff will re-analyze the project list and come up with recommendations so that Year 6 is not in the red. Also, the unfunded list needs to be prioritized, and we've been using the fund balance; it will be spent down to align with District policy in Year 5.

**10.0 Old Business - None**

**11.0 Executive Session** – Motion by member Carter, second by member Wilke to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition matters. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. The Committee went into executive session at 11:08 a.m. and returned to open session at 11:40 a.m.


Motion by member Carter, second by member Wilke to go into executive session for the purpose of reviewing approved closed session minutes for release or retention and erasure of verbatim recordings. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. The Committee went into executive session at 1:00 p.m. and returned to open session at 1:25 p.m.

**13.0 Potential Final Action regarding Land Acquisition – None**

**14.0 Next scheduled meeting:** February 29, 2016

**15.0 Adjourn** – Motion by member Carter, second by member Pedersen to adjourn. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

**Approved:**

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>		<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
<u>Carol Calabresa, Chair</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Steven W. Mandel, Vice-Chair</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Jeff Werfel</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Bonnie Thomson Carter</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Terry Wilke</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Linda Pedersen</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			