

**Lake County Forest Preserve District  
Planning Committee  
February 5, 2018 - Open Session Minutes**

The Lake County Forest Preserves' Planning Committee met on Monday, February 5, 2018. The meeting was held at the District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

- 1.0 Call to order** – With a quorum physically present, Chair Carol Calabresa called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

**Members Present:**

Carol Calabresa, Chair  
Paul Frank  
Sandy Hart  
Linda Pedersen  
Tom Weber  
Jeff Werfel  
Terry Wilke

**Absent:**

Sid Mathias  
Craig Taylor

**Also Present:**

Ann Maine, President  
Alex Ty Kovach  
Mike Tully  
Randy Seebach  
Steve Neaman  
Jim Anderson  
John Nelson  
Mary Kann  
Jim Ballowe  
Katherine Hamilton-Smith  
Ken Jones

Rebekah Snyder  
Brett Peto  
Jackie DeMasi  
Matt Norton  
Julie Gragnani  
Jack Nowak  
Don Wilson  
Jeff Smith  
Rebecca Grill  
Tom Polzin  
Kevin Kleinjan  
Liza McElroy

- 2.0 Pledge of Allegiance** – Member Sandy Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 3.0 Addenda to the Agenda** – None

- 4.0 Public Comment** – There was no public comment for topics not on the agenda.

- 5.0 Executive Director Report** –Executive Director Kovach distributed his report and commented on:

- Work being done to reduce the District's kilowatt hours by 35%;
- Submission of two grants;
- The Preservation Foundation's new Finance Committee;
- YCC crew member recruitment for 2018 has begun;
- Hope Grove Cemetery's Fleming family;
- American Transmission Company's request regarding Oak-Hickory Forest Preserve no longer needed;
- Brett Peto of Public Affairs presented examples of videos they have produced;

- 6.0 Approval of Minutes** – Motion by member Weber, second by member Pedersen to approve the open and executive session minutes from January 8, 2018; and joint meeting minutes from January 29, 2018. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

- 7.0 Correspondence** – None

- 8.0 Payment Approvals** – None

- 9.0 Old Business** – None

## **10.0 New Business**

### **10.1 Recommend approval of Resolution awarding Contract for Wetland Invasive Plant Control at Grassy Lake Forest Preserve to McGinty Bros., Inc., Long Grove, Illinois, in the Contract Price of \$75,240.00 -**

Mr. Kovach noted that the two lowest bidders did not include the required bid bond and insurance information. Motion by member Hart, second by member Weber to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

### **10.2 Recommend approval of Resolution awarding Contract for Lake Plain Invasive Plant Strike Team at Spring Bluff Forest Preserve to Native Restoration Services, Inc., Lake Bluff, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$205,159.57 -**

Mr. Kovach noted that this project is funded by a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant. Motion by member Weber, second by member Hart to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

### **10.3 Policy direction regarding potential amendment to an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Highland Park and Park District of Highland Park regarding Skokie River Woods -**

Planning and Land Preservation Director Randy Seebach provided background on Skokie River Woods. In 2002 the District entered into an IGA, contributing \$950,000 toward conservation easements on three parcels that Mr. Seebach showed on a map. In exchange, the Park District would improve the property with future greenway and trail connections to several of the District's preserves including Fort Sheridan, Prairie Wolf and Berkley Prairie, as well as local schools and parks. The Park District is requesting an amendment to the IGA so that it is no longer obligated to construct the trails as located on the original plan and has prepared an alternate "Gateway Path Conceptual Master Plan" placing the trail through the former Highland Park Country Club property that will be transferred to the Park District from the City of Highland Park at a future date. District staff supports the request because the original trail location could cause environmental impacts to the area that are greater than originally contemplated in 2002. Since the IGA was approved the Park District has successfully restored much of the area where the original improvements were to be constructed.

Staff asked the committee for permission to negotiate an amendment to the IGA which will include the new Master Plan, and added that the conservation easement agreements may also need to be amended. Mr. Seebach responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. Comments and responses to questions were provided by Liza McElroy and Rebecca Grill of the Park District, and their engineers from Hey & Associates. Ownership transfer of the golf course is to take place on March 31, 2018 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is in place between the City and the Park District. During discussion President Maine felt that the committee should wait on a decision until the land transfer has taken place, and wanted more information on their proposed trail location and connections. Member Frank recommended deferring the matter to the next meeting and President Maine requested that the Park District prepare better illustrations to provide clearer information. Ms. McElroy noted that their MOU with the City includes a provision that the Park District conduct their planning process for the former golf course parcel in 2018 so the property doesn't lie dormant for an extended period. The consensus of the committee was to present this item again at next month's meeting with additional supporting documentation.

### **10.4 Recommend approval of Resolution awarding Contract for Public Access Improvements at Ethel's Woods Forest Preserve to Campanella & Sons, Wadsworth, Illinois, in the Contract Price of \$824,522.45 -**

Mr. Seebach summarized the project, noting that the purchase of Ethel's Woods was partially funded through an Open Lands Trust grant, which required that site improvements be completed and open to the public by the end of 2019. Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Weber to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

President Maine requested that staff prepare a summary of contracts awarded to Lake County firms during the last five years.

10.5 Recommend approval of Resolution approving Tax Sale Agreement with Openlands resulting from the 2017 Annual Lake County Tax Sale, allowing the District to purchase three Certificates of Sale from Openlands for a sum not to exceed \$11,064.93 – Mr. Kovach summarized the recommendation to purchase three tax certificates, and Ken Jones showed the parcels on maps. Motion by member Wilke, second by member Werfel to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.


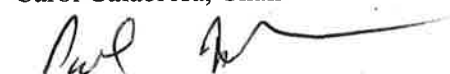






10.6 Recommend approval of Resolution to purchase approximately 8.2-acre parcel known as the Grawe property for \$287,000.00 as an addition to Lakewood Forest Preserve - Mr. Kovach summarized the property and noted that the seller approached the District about a purchase. Motion by member Hart, second by member Pedersen to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

11.0 **Executive Session** – Motion by member Weber, second by member Hart to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the purchase or lease of real property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. The Committee went into executive session at 2:10 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:27 p.m.

12.0 **Next scheduled meeting:** March 5, 2018

13.0 **Adjourn** – With no further business, Chair Calabresa adjourned the meeting at 2:27 p.m.

**Approved:**

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>		<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
 Carol Calabresa, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Paul Frank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Sandra Hart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Linda Pedersen	<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"/>	 Jeff Werfel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Terry Wilke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			