

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Planning Committee
June 26, 2017 - Open Session Minutes**

The Lake County Forest Preserves' Planning Committee met on Monday, June 26, 2017. The meeting was held at the District's Operations & Public Safety Facility, 19808 West Grand Avenue, Lake Villa, Illinois.

1.0 Call to order – With a quorum present, Chair Carol Calabresa called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Members Present:

Carol Calabresa, Chair
Sid Mathias, Vice Chair
Paul Frank
Sandy Hart
Linda Pedersen
Craig Taylor
Tom Weber
Jeff Werfel
Terry Wilke

Also Present:

Ann Maine, President (1:10 pm)
Chuck Bartels (by phone)
Alex Ty Kovach
Steve Neaman
Randy Seebach
Jim Anderson
Mary Kann
Nan Buckardt
Katherine Hamilton-Smith
John Nelson
John Tannahill
Rebekah Snyder

Also Present:

Rebecca Hegner
Matt Norton, Legal Counsel
Julie Gragnani
Richard Riley
Nancy Jacoby
Leslye Sandberg
Barb Thompson
Scott Banaszynski
Logan Dreyer
Scott McMillian
Tim Marvin
Skip Goss
Ron Hudson

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Member Weber led the pledge of allegiance.

3.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

4.0 Public Comment – There was no public comment for items not on the agenda.

5.0 Executive Director Report – Executive Director Kovach distributed and summarized his report, including: YCC Golf Outing Fundraiser; Preservation Foundation news and events; Civil War Days; Science Explorers in Nature; Public Affairs homeowners survey; recent Des Plaines River Canoe and Kayak Marathon; access improvement projects; Chiwaukee Prairie Illinois Lake Plain recognized as a Society of Wetland Scientists Wetland of Distinction; legislative update; and upcoming NRPA conference. Chief John Tannahill introduced his staff in attendance: Scott Banaszynski and Logan Dreyer.

6.0 Approval of Minutes – Motion by member Frank, second by member Weber to approve the open and closed session minutes of June 5, 2017. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

7.0 Correspondence

7.1 Request to allow equestrian carriages and carts on equestrian trails at Lakewood Forest Preserve – Mr. Kovach introduced the request, showing the location on a map. He noted that the use equestrian drawn carriages and carts are currently allowed through a special use permit at Waukegan Savanna Forest Preserve, but no permits have been issued over the past three years. Chair Calabresa recognized public comment:

- Nancy Jacoby, Lake County/Milton Road resident – requested that the District revise the existing use policy at Lakewood Forest Preserve equestrian trails to include driving small carriages and carts.
- Leslie Sandberg, Lake County resident – spoke in support of Ms. Jacoby's request, and felt that the existing location at Waukegan Savanna is not safe because it shares use with sled dogs; the equestrian trails at Lakewood are for horses only.
- Kathy Franks – spoke in support of Ms. Jacoby's request.

Committee members asked questions made comments; there were concerns over the width of the carriages. A general discussion ensued. Planning Director Seebach noted that staff would need time to research this use and gather more information for through the Lakewood Master Plan process. President Maine noted that the request for driving carriages will need to be considered as part of the overall public master plan process for Lakewood, and staff will need to look at the implications including enforcement. She added that the dogsled use at Waukegan Savanna should be looked at and eliminated if not being used.

Commissioner Chuck Bartels suggested that Ms. Jacoby draft proposed regulations for this use and submit to staff as a starting point. Chair Calabresa noted that the committee would forward the request to staff for due diligence and consideration in developing the Lakewood Master Plan.

8.0 Payment Approvals – None

9.0 Old Business

9.1 Policy direction regarding letter from Wireless & Broadcast Siting Advisors LLC requesting that the District's Board commit to one of two proposed sites at Countryside Golf Course before Central States Tower organizes and holds an open house for public input on the two sites - Mr. Kovach gave a recap of the request for a cell tower at Countryside Golf Course and various possible locations, which had been narrowed down to a location within the existing parking lot north of the maintenance shop, not at Route 60 and Hawley Street. The committee's direction was that the cell tower company would be required to hold an open house for public input, and it was made clear to Mr. Riley that even if there is an open house, it doesn't mean the District would necessarily approve the request. Mr. Kovach reported that the cell tower company is now reluctant to have an open house unless the District's Board provides a commitment prior to an open house. He added that staff's recommendation is that until there is an open house and the results/feedback can be analyzed, the request should not be considered. Several committee members made comments and a general discussion ensued. The consensus of the committee was that there would be no commitment made prior to an open house. Commissioner Bartels added that he would not support the request without an open house taking place first. Richard Riley, representing Central States Towers, noted that they never anticipated not holding a public hearing, and agreed that it was made clear to him that if there was opposition from the neighbors, the Board may back out completely, but he felt everyone had gotten beyond that point because he already showed a clear need for additional facilities at this location. He was trying to get some sense of commitment from the District that one of the sites would be approved.

A general discussion ensued. Commissioner Bartels noted that a location was selected that would have the least dissatisfaction from neighbors, and recommended moving forward with an open house so the neighbors can have their input. Both he and staff have worked as well as they could to be a reasonable partner with Central States Towers. President Maine added that the Board members are stewards of the land and demand much information before decisions are made. This would be a philosophical change and precedent-setting. Chair Calabresa added that voter approval is required for funding land acquisition and do something this precedent-changing would be huge. The District must go through the process of obtaining public input. Several other committee members commented; and Chair Calabresa invited public comment:

- Scott McMillian – Gurnee resident and Countryside facility user – spoke in opposition of having a cell tower at Countryside.
- Tim Marvin – Mundelein resident, spoke in favor of the open house to provide public input.

Chair Calabresa noted that the consensus of the committee was that the cell tower request will continue to be considered only after the open house is held for the public. Mr. Riley said that they will likely proceed with holding the open house.

9.2 Policy direction regarding request from Waukegan Port District (WPD) to consider transfer of 13.6 acres of fee simple interest, in lieu of permanent easement, at Waukegan Savanna Forest Preserve, required for WPD's proposed expansion of runway at Waukegan National Airport – Mr. Kovach summarized the request, meetings have been held in preparation for negotiating an IGA, which included fee simple transfer of 38.7 acres and 13.6 acres of permanent easement. Since the last committee discussion, it was learned that the FAA will only provide

limited funding assistance for the acquisition of an easement, so WPD is asking to negotiate the fee simple sale of the additional 13.6 acres in lieu of a permanent easement. The use restrictions would be nearly the same anyway, and a fee simple transfer would allow WPD a higher percentage reimbursement from the FAA. A general discussion ensued; Skip Goss, General Manager, Waukegan Airport; and Ron Hudson from their engineering firm, responded to questions. President Maine encouraged them to be creative in trying to acquire the land that would become an island, and there will need to be provisions for long-term management of unused land so it doesn't become blight. Mr. Hudson said there could be a deed restriction for that. Mr. Goss said the island along Bayonne Avenue will be addressed, and what happens if they have ownership of the property and the project stops for some reason. The consensus of the committee was that they were okay with the 13.6 acres being transferred fee simple instead of the permanent easement.

10.0 New Business

10.1 Recommend approval of Resolution awarding Contract for Woody Invasive Plant Control Clearing Phase 1 at Ray Lake Forest Preserve (Cuneo Parcel) to JH Landworks, Wauconda, IL in the Contract Price of \$74,960.00 Natural Resource Director Jim Anderson responded to questions. Motion by member Taylor, 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 a Resolution awarding a Contract for Hydrologic Analysis, Design and Wetland Services for Multiple Preserves to Hey and Associates, Inc. in the Contract Price of \$96,876.00— Mr. Kovach summarized the project and Jim Anderson responded to questions. Motion by member Hart, second by member Wilke 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 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving an Easement Agreement with Commonwealth Edison for a 0.18-acre permanent utility easement for existing electrical poles at Sun Lake Forest Preserve- Mr. Kovach showed the location on a map and summarized the recommendation. Motion by member Weber, second by member Mathias 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.

10.4 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving an Easement Agreement with Commonwealth Edison for a 0.24-acre permanent utility easement for existing electrical poles at Van Patten Woods Forest Preserve— Mr. Kovach showed the location on a map and summarized the recommendation. Motion by member Hart, 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.

10.5 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving an Exchange of Easements Agreement with KZF Stack Real Estate, LLC, for the planned Lincolnshire Trails Subdivision, located on the north side of Riverside Road, east of Milwaukee Avenue, adjacent to Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area— Director Seebach showed the location on a map and summarized the recommendation. As part of the proposed development of Lincolnshire Trails subdivision, KZF wants to cross the District's existing easement and the Des Plaines River Trail with two storm sewer pipes; and perform minor grading within the District's easement and lower the elevation of a short segment of the trail, in order to meet its compensatory storage requirements. In exchange, KZF will expand the existing easement to: 1) address a small encroachment of the existing trail, and 2) relocate and realign a section of trail within the new easement area to address a safety issue. A general discussion ensued and Mr. Seebach responded to questions. President Maine added that the Village of Lincolnshire has other improvements going in the area and these corrections will be benefit the entire area. Motion by member Weber, second by member Taylor 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 a Resolution approving a Contract for Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) On-Site Construction Support Services for the Public Access Improvements at Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve to Tetra Tech, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia, in the Contract Price of \$35,732.65- Mr. Seebach showed the area on a map and explained that the quit claim deed transferring title to the District for this parcel contains UXO restrictions, permitting

requirements, and construction support requirements. He explained the responsibilities of the support contractor during the excavation phase of construction and responded to questions. Motion by member Wilke, 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.

10.7 Policy Direction regarding request from Lake County Division of Transportation to consider transfer of 0.90 acre of fee simple interest, and to provide 0.61 acre of temporary easement at Grant Woods Forest Preserve, required for proposed roundabout improvements to intersection of Fairfield and Monaville Roads– Mr. Seebach showed the location on a map where LCDOT plans to construct a roundabout with sidewalks and crosswalks. They would need approximately 0.90 acre of additional right-of-way in fee simple ownership, and up to 0.61 acre temporary construction easement for grading purposes. Staff asked for permission to continue discussions with LCDOT and to negotiate an agreement when ready. A general discussion ensued and Mr. Seebach responded to questions. President Maine felt that LCDOT should incorporate pedestrian and bicycle accommodations within their improvement plans. Mr. Seebach will bring that up to LCDOT again at the next meeting. The consensus of the committee was to proceed and investigate any needed curb cuts with LCDOT and the local municipalities.

11.0 **Executive Session** – Motion by member Weber, 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: 9, NAYS: 0. The Committees went into executive session at 2:47 p.m. and returned to open session at 3:33 p.m.

12.0 **Next scheduled meeting:** July 31, 2017

13.0 **Adjourn** – With no further business before the committee, Chair Calabresa declared the meeting adjourned at 3:33 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"/>	 Sidney Mathias, Vice Chair	<input checked="" 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 Woffel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Terry Wilke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			