Lake County Forest Preserve District Land Preservation & Acquisition Committee February 29, 2016 - Open Session Minutes

The Lake County Forest Preserves Land Preservation & Acquisition Committee met on Monday, February 29, 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, Vice-Chair Steven Mandel called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

Committee Members Present:	Also Present:				
Steve Mandel, Vice Chair	Ann B. Maine, President	John Tannahill			
Bonnie Thomson Carter	Steve Carlson	Jim Ballowe			
Linda Pedersen	Audrey Nixon	Mary Kann			
Tom Weber	Craig Taylor	Rebekah Snyder			
Jeff Werfel	Alex Ty Kovach	Rebecca Hegner			
Terry Wilke	Mike Tully	Julie Gragnani			
Absent:	Randy Seebach	Chris Butler			
Carol Calabresa	Ken Jones	Matt Norton, Holland & Knight			
	Steve Neaman	Eric Thom, Continental Properties			
	Jim Anderson	Vince Mosca, Hey & Associates			
	Katherine Hamilton-Smith				

- 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 update;
 - Recent Legislative Breakfast he attended with President Maine;
 - Pilot buckthorn removal project at Middlefork Savanna; there was a discussion and Director Jim Anderson responded to questions;
 - Pine Dunes restoration project award:
 - President Maine's authorization of participation in annual Blue Star Museum program;
 - Distributed a chart detailing the District's trails;
 - Status of solar panel projects
- **7.0** Approve Minutes Motion by member Wilke, second by member Weber to approve the minutes from February 1, 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 Vice Chair Mandel circulated the January 2016 Quarles & Brady invoice and the December 2015 Holland & Knight invoice for signature approval.
- 9.0 New Business
- 9.1 Recommend approval of Resolution to purchase a 61.8-acre parcel of property in Fremont Township known as the White property for approximately \$2,008,500.00 as an addition to Ray Lake Forest Preserve Mr. Kovach illustrated the property on a map, adjacent to the recently acquired Cuneo property; price per acre is \$32,500/acre. Motion by member Carter, 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 Finance and Administrative Committee.
- 9.2 Policy direction to authorize negotiations with Continental Properties Company, Inc., for the potential

compliance of Permittee Requested Off-site Mitigation as required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for impacts to wetlands at Prairie Wolf Forest Preserve – Natural Resource Director Jim Anderson introduced Eric Tom of Continental Properties and their consultant Vince Mosca of Hey and Associates. Mr. Anderson explained that Continental Properties has proposed a Mariano's store on the northeast corner of Waukegan Road and Half Day Road within an area expected to be annexed into the Village of Bannockburn. Continental Properties initially submitted a plan to the District for wetland mitigation on District property, and staff said no because the development was originally thought to have no impact to existing wetlands District property. However, the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) later determined that the development would indirectly impact wooded wetlands on District property; therefore staff has reconsidered the developer's request to do wetland mitigation at Prairie Wolf. Staff has identified a 25-acre parcel of wet savanna in the Preserve's northern portion that would be appropriate, and requested permission to negotiate with Continental Properties, Hey & Associates, and the USACE for possible mitigation at Prairie Wolf. Mr. Anderson noted that other concerns the District had regarding the development itself have already been addressed. A general discussion ensued and the committee's direction was to proceed with negotiations.

9.3 Policy direction regarding request from Illinois Department of Transportation to approve a non-binding letter of intent and/or negotiate an intergovernmental agreement for grant by the District of permanent and temporary easements along IL Route 132 west of Munn Road, at Duck Farm Forest Preserve – Planning & Land Preservation Director Randy Seebach summarized IDOT's planned improvements to Route 132 between Deep Lake Road and Munn Road adjacent Duck Farm Forest Preserve. IDOT is requesting a permanent easement for storm drainage and a sidewalk, and a temporary easement for grading to meet existing ground elevations. Staff requested permission to send a non-binding letter of intent and to discuss the possibility of a land exchange for property that IDOT owns, for the easements. The land exchange and committee direction was moved to executive session.

10.0 Old Business - None

- 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, probable or imminent litigation, and disposition of District property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 6, NAYS: 0. The Committee went into executive session at 11:00 a.m. and returned to open session at 11:40 a.m.
- 12.0 Potential Final Action regarding Land Acquisition None
- 13.0 Next scheduled meeting: April 4, 2016
- **14.0** Adjourn Motion by member Werfel, second by member Weber to adjourn. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. Approved:

		<u>YEA</u>	NAY		<u>YEA</u>	NAY
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	Carol Calabresa, Chair		,	Tom Weber		
	Steven W. Mandel, Vice-Chair			Jeffrey A. Werlef Jeff Werfel	\boxtimes	
	Bonnie Thomson Carter	4		Terry Wilke	X	
<	Linda Pedersen					