

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Operations Committee Meeting Minutes - Monday, April 4, 2022**

On Monday, April 4, 2022, the District's Operations Committee met at the District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois and via audio and video conference for the Public and Media.

1.0 Call to Order - Chair Vealitzek called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2.0 Roll Call – Committee Secretary Shelton called the roll. Three committee members responded: Jessica Vealitzek, Chair, Bill Durkin, Vice Chair, and Mary Ross Cunningham. President Angelo Kyle responded present to make a quorum. Arriving after roll call Ann Maine and Catherine Sbarra. Absent: Jennifer Clark and Terry Wilke.

Also Present:

Angelo D. Kyle, <i>President</i>	John Nelson	Mark Petitgoue
Carissa Casbon	Randy Seebach	Monica Echeverria
Gina Roberts	Rebekah Snyder	Kim Mikus Croke
Alex Ty Kovach	John Tannahill	Norma Zamudio
Mike Tully	Pati Vitt	Maureen Shelton
Nan Buckardt	Debbie Boness	Tamela Lockett
Mary Kann	Garnet Miller	Matt Norton, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>
Steve Neaman	Russ Chamberlin	Mick Zawislak, <i>Daily Herald</i>

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Vice Chair Durkin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Approval of Minutes - Motion by member Cunningham second by member Durkin to approve the Minutes of the February 28, 2022 Operations Committee Meeting Open Session and August 2, 2021 Closed Session. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The minutes were circulated for signatures.

6.0 Public Comment – None

7.0 Executive Director Comments – Mary Kann, Director of Administration introduced two new front desk staff members, Norma Zamudio and Monica Echeverria. Executive Director Kovach then presented his report and responded to questions on:

- An early morning fire at Fort Sheridan's comfort station and distributed photos of the damage;
- Reminded committee of the upcoming Ft. Sheridan Open House and passed out the flyer for this event;
- Sergeant Scott Banaszynski's recent successful completion and graduation from Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety;
- Reviewed the winter 2021-22 building demolitions. Staff removed nine buildings, totaling approximately 14,602 square feet, \$14,906 in revenue was received from recycling scrap material;
- The Ansel Adams exhibit closed at the Dunn Museum on Sunday March 27. Total attendance of 10,245 makes it one of the most popular exhibits the museum has ever hosted;
- The Dunn Museum's traveling Marvelocity: *The Art of Alex Ross* exhibit has traveled from Canton, Ohio to Sheboygan County Museum in Wisconsin. While in Canton the exhibit reached 6,419 visitors;
- *Our Voice is Black History* Exhibit developed with the College of Lake County has been selected as a recipient of a 2022 NACPRO Award in the History and Culture program category;

- The District environmental educators have turned Earth Day from one day celebration into a week, with programming designed to get people outdoors. Earth Week runs April 18 through April 24;
- Staff recently completed work on a Land Acknowledgement statement for the District. The statement recognizes the unique and enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous People and their traditional territories.

8.0 Correspondence – None

9.0 Unfinished Business – None

10.0 New Business

- 10.1 Review of Golf Course Equipment Purchase Recommendation. Mike Tully, Chief Operations Officer explained to the committee that the golf equipment purchase that was approved by this Committee last month, was not approved by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee requested staff investigate electric options. Alex Eichman, Chief of Golf Operations then proceeded to summarize the Resolution, explaining that these gas-powered pieces of equipment meet Tier 4 emissions standards. He showed the committee the three pieces of equipment and explained the reasons why at this time staff is recommending the purchase of gas-powered equipment. Those reasons were the increased cost of electric versus gas; the lack of electric equipment available in the golf industry; the amount of battery power needed for the acreage and the potential for additional staffing needed. Mr. Eichman then reviewed the District leased golf cars. Only about a third of the carts are electric because of storage requirements. Green Practices followed at the golf courses was also presented. Mr. Eichman along with Mark Petitgoue, Superintendent of Golf Course Grounds Operations and Russ Chamberlin, Golf Course Superintendent responded to questions.
- 10.2 Recommend approval of Resolution awarding a contract to Club Prophet Systems, Inc., to provide point of sale support and other services outlined below for golf operations at the three District golf courses. Motion by member Durkin, second by member Cunningham to approve the recommendation. Mike Tully, Chief Operations Officer summarized the recommendation and Alex Eichman provided further detail on the POS system. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.
- 10.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the purchase of one ride-on rear discharge electric zero-turn mower, to Russo Power Equipment in the Contract Price of \$38,876.00. Motion by member Durkin, second by member Cunningham to approve the recommendation. Mike Tully, Chief Operations Officer summarized the recommendation and John Nelson, Director of Operations and infrastructure provided more details on the electric mower. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.
- 10.4 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for Reforestation Watering at Multiple Forest Preserves (Old School, Singing Hills and Lakewood) to Alvarez, Inc., in the Contract Price of \$36,480.00. Motion by member Maine, second by member Cunningham to approve the recommendation. Mike Tully summarized the recommendation. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.
- 10.5 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the Purchase of Trees and Shrubs for various Forest Preserves to Possibility Place Nursery, Inc. in the Contract Price of \$27,883.25. Motion by member Cunningham, second by member Durkin to approve the recommendation. Mike Tully summarized the recommendation. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

- 10.6 Recommend Approval of a Resolution Awarding Contracts for Native Seed Purchases for Multiple Preserves to Prairie Moon Nursery, in the Contract Price of \$52,230.17; Shooting Star Native Seeds, in the Contract Price of \$37,899.30; and Spence Restoration Nursery; in the Contract Price of \$35,767.04. Motion by member Maine, second by member Sbarra to approve the recommendation. Mike Tully summarized the recommendation. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.
- 10.7 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for Tree Protection Fencing Materials for Multiple Preserves to Far North International in the Contract Price of \$27,205.00. Motion by member Cunningham, second by member Durkin to approve the recommendation. Mike Tully summarized the recommendation and responded to a question. Pati Vitt, Director of Natural Resources responded to additional questions. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.
- 10.8 Provide policy direction on potential change in licensee at the Community Garden Site in Waukegan. Mike Tully, Chief Operations Officer summarized the policy direction and Rebekah Snyder, Director of Community Engagement & Partnerships provided further details on the Community Garden Site and the potential change of Licensee from The Fuller Center for Housing to the College of Lake County. Member Cunningham requested that the District send a thank you letter to the Fuller Center. Consensus by the Committee was given to proceed with licensee change.
- 10.9 Provide policy direction whether to proceed with a potential grant application to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and/or the preparation of a master plan for the Adlai E. Stevenson Historic Home, Service Building, and property. Mike Tully summarized the policy direction and Rebekah Snyder provided background, noting that the direction of the Finance Committee in March 2020 was to investigate opportunities for grants to finance some or all of the needed renovation work at the Stevenson buildings and to ask the low bidder to extend its bid through the May 12, 2020 Board meeting date, and they complied. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the bid extension expired with no action taken. A joint committee meeting was held at the Stevenson House in May 2021 to consider renovations of the buildings in conjunction with the annual CIP program review. Discussion included the \$700,000 estimate for exterior renovations to the home, and the \$400,000 estimate to renovate the exterior of the service building. The Committees recommended funding \$100,000 in the 2022 CIP to develop a master plan for the Stevenson Home and surrounding landscape, ceasing discussion of renovations. Directly after the meeting an appeal to the State of Illinois was made for grant funding, which was later approved in the state budget.

Director Snyder explained that in February 2022 staff received an invitation to submit a grant application to the Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, for the \$1.1 million grant. She spoke with the grant officer and found there was no specific due date to submit the application. Staff sought direction on 1) whether to proceed with the grant application, which would commit the District to the long-term ownership and maintenance of Stevenson Home and service building and 2) whether to proceed with a master plan of the site, either with applying and obtaining the grant and renovating the buildings, or not applying or receiving the grant but keeping the buildings, or demolishing the buildings. The purpose of the master planning would be to identify more energy efficient operations for the buildings, more efficient parking operations, opportunities for better public access (including ADA compliance) and potential alternative uses for the property if the buildings are demolished.

A lengthy discussion ensued, and staff responded to questions. Many members were concerned about the ongoing maintenance of the buildings and liked the idea of an exhibit replicated from the Stevenson Library for the Museum. Following discussion, the consensus of the committee was to proceed with the Master Plan and not to seek the grant at this time.

Motion by member Maine, second by member Cunningham to approve Items 10.10 and 10.11 together:

10.10 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Borland Cabin at the Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area with Mark S. Miller in the purchase price of \$100.25.

10.11 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Cramer Cabin at the Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area with Burnham Group LLC in the purchase price of \$10.00.

Mike Tully introduced the recommendations. Randy Seebach, Director of Planning & Land Preservation, summarized the proposals received for the purchase and removal of the two cabins to make way for the new education building at Ryerson. Mr. Seebach mentioned that now that we have found purchasers for both cabins, we are hopeful that the grant agencies will look at the removal/relocation as having less of an adverse effect when evaluating future grant opportunities. Mr. Seebach noted that the sale agreements will be contingent on the new building; recent bids received are 20 to 25% higher than estimates, but staff is developing strategies to stay within the budget. Mr. Seebach responded to questions. With a voice vote being had, the motion to recommend approval of the two Resolutions passed unanimously. The recommendations were forwarded to the Planning Committee for approval.

10.12 For Information Only - Review of Public Safety Policies and General Orders Manual. Mr. Tully informed the committee that next month they would be asked to approve the revised Public Safety Policies. This is part of the process to become an accredited agency. He noted that a link will be provided to committee members to review the policies prior to next month's meeting. John Tannahill, Director of Public Safety, explained the Illinois law enforcement accreditation process in more detail and responded to questions.

11.0 Miscellaneous Business

Member Maine requested that we get a handle on the number of paper packets we make for the committee members, because all members have tablets. Staff to poll the committee members to see if they need a paper copy.




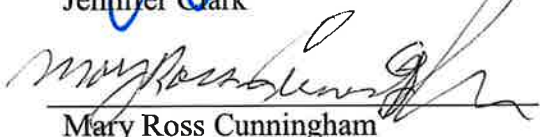
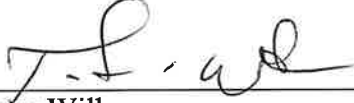
Chair Vealitzek mentioned "No Mow May", calling on property owners to refrain from cutting their grass over the month so the first flowers are available for bees and other pollinators emerging from hibernation. She asked if the District could do anything like this.

12.0 Closed Session — None

13.0 Potential Action Following Closed Session – None

14.0 Adjourn – Chair Vealitzek informed the Committee that the next Operations Committee meeting is May 2, 2022 and with no further business, declared the meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

APPROVED:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>		<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
 _____ Jessica Vealitzek, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 _____ Ann B. Maine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 _____ Jennifer Clark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Catherine Sbarra	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 _____ Mary Ross Cunningham	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 _____ Terry Wilke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			