Lake County Forest Preserve District
Operations Committee Meeting Minutes - Monday, June 27, 2022

On Monday, June 27, 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 – Vice Chair Cunningham called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2.0 Roll Call – Committee Secretary Shelton called the roll. Four committee members responded: Mary Ross Cunningham, Vice Chair, Jennifer Clark, Ann Maine, and Terry Wilke. Arriving after roll call Catherine Sbarra and Steve Snarski. Absent: Jessica Vealitzek, Chair.

Also Present:
Angelo D. Kyle, President
Linda Pedersen
Alex Ty Kovach
Mike Tully
Nan Buckardt
Mary Kann
John Nelson
Rebekah Snyder
John Tannahill
Pati Vitt
Erika Stergos
Alex Eichman
Debbie Boness
Tom Burgess
Lisa Roberts
JoEllen Carlucci
John Lacson
Kim Mikus
Kristin Seefurth
Julie Gragnani
Maureen Shelton
Tamela Lockett
Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel
Mick Zawislak, Daily Herald

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Member Jennifer Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Approval of Minutes - Motion by member Maine second by member Clark to approve the Minutes of the May 2, 2022 Operations Committee meeting open and closed session and the June 6, 2022 Joint Committee meeting. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The minutes were circulated for signatures.

6.0 Public Comment – None

7.0 Executive Director Comments – Rebekah Snyder, Director of Community Engagement & Partnerships introduced four new employees Kristen Seefurth, Web Designer, JoEllen Carlucci, Executive Assistant, Erika Stergos, Executive Director of the Preservation Foundation and John Lacson, Social Media Specialist. Executive Director Kovach then introduced Tom Burgess, Golf Operations Manager and presented his report and responded to questions on:

- As previously discussed, staff has obtained “Recycle Right” information from the recycling provider and made and installed signs District-wide;
- In celebration of Waukegan artist Reima V. Ratti’s 180th birthday, one of his recently restored paintings will be displayed at the Dunn Museum July 8th – 15;
- Field trips for the school year just ended and attendance recovered to about 60% of the last pre-COVID school year. Virtual field trips were presented to more than 35% of the nearly 10,000 students who attended field trips this school year;
- Provided information on the school district’s that are eligible for next school year’s Gateways Grant Program. The Program offers field trip waivers and transportation to low-income public-school districts in Lake County;
- Mentioned the June 21st gathering at Nippersink Forest Preserves celebrating the renaming of Manitou Creek.
- Dunn Museum staff recently met at Bonner Farm with John Bonner, the great-great grandson of William Bonner. Mr. Bonner gave an oral history that was video-recorded.
- Asked the Committee to mark their calendars for the Science Explorers in Nature open house at 1pm, Friday July 15th at the Greenbelt Cultural Center;
- Provided a reminder that the Volunteer Recognition Picnic is Friday, July 8th at the North Bay Pavilion at Independence Grove from 5 to 7 p.m.;
- Passed around the new herbicide quick-start guide for Lake County residents. This guide is a key resource for homeowners to remove buckthorn from their property. Member Maine questioned chemical levels and health risks for herbicides used on District properties. Pati Vitt, Director of Natural Resources addressed the question and assured the committee that staff, and contractors follow EPA guidelines and use the least amount of chemical required for the task. Director Vitt will look into the latest EPA documents to ensure they align with our current bid specifications;
- The spring/summer issue of Horizons is now available in print and to view online.

8.0 Correspondence – None

9.0 Unfinished Business – None

10.0 New Business

10.1 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving an Annual Support and License Agreement for Financial Software to Tyler Technologies, Inc., MUNIS Division, in the Contract Price of $112,220.28. Motion by member Wilke, second by Clark to approve the recommendation. Mike Tully, Chief Operations Officer summarized the recommendation. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the Finance Committee for approval.

10.2 Recommend approval of an Ordinance establishing fees and charges for District permits, programs, services and facilities (Annual Fee Ordinance). Motion by member Maine, second by member Snarski to approve the ordinance. Mr. Tully reviewed the changes with the committee. Nan Buckardt, Director of Education provided further details on the Dunn Museum archive research fees. Dan Stearns, Chief Business Development Officer responded to Vice Chair Cunningham questions about Thunderhawk and Greenbelt proposed fees. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the Finance Committee for approval.

11.0 Miscellaneous Business

Member Clark mentioned that she attended the Town and Country Garden Show in Libertyville and described how proud she was of the LCFPD booth. The LCFPD representatives taught gardeners how to identify, prevent, and eradicate buckthorn.

12.0 Closed Session — None

13.0 Potential Action Following Closed Session – None

14.0 Adjourn – Vice Cunningham informed the Committee that the next Operations Committee meeting is August 1, 2022 and with no further business, declared the meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

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Jessica Véalitzek, Chair

Mary Ross Cunningham, Vice Chair

Jennifer Clark

Ann B. Maine

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Catherine Sbarra

Steve Snarski

Terry Wilke