

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Planning Committee Minutes – January 6, 2020**

The Lake County Forest Preserves' Planning Committee met on Monday, January 6, 2020. The meeting was held at the District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

1.0 Call to order – With a quorum present, Chair John Wasik called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Members Present:

John Wasik, Chair
Julie Simpson, Vice Chair
Dick Barr
Jennifer Clark
Adam Didech
Diane Hewitt
Judy Martini
Linda Pedersen
Jessica Vealitzek

Also Present:

Angelo Kyle, President
Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel
Alex Ty Kovach

Also Present:

Mike Tully
Randy Seebach
Ken Jones
Steve Neaman
John Nelson
Jim Anderson
Mary Kann
Katherine Hamilton-Smith
Nan Buckardt
Ken Hoffman
Kim Mikus Croke
Jeff Sloom
Becky Mathis
Sue Hawkins

Also Present:

Allison Frederick
Jackie DeMasi
Julie Gagnani
Lynn Goodell
Don Wilson
Roberta Harms
Marie Storter
Robert Lang
Skip Schaefer
Sheila Watson
Don Schaefer
Grant Benjamin
Elaine Ramesh

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Member Pedersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – Motion by member Clark, second by member Hewitt to approve the open session and closed session minutes from December 2, 2019. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

4.0 Public Comment for matters not on Agenda - None

5.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

6.0 Executive Director's Report –Executive Director Kovach reported on:

- 2019 Grants and Donations totaling over \$5.5 million;
- Strategic Plan Objective 6 - Refreshed District logo;
- Celebration of Souls exhibit at Dunn Museum closed on January 5th; next exhibit to feature artwork of Waukegan artist Reima V. Ratti;
- Sunset walk for Winter Solstice was attended by 130 people;
- Steering Committee will meet on March 9th to review draft objectives for Board approval in April;
- 2019 Incident Rate was 7.33 – down from the 2015 rate of 11.08;
- Fort Sheridan Cemetery jurisdiction was transferred to the U.S. Veterans Administration;
- Annual volunteer recognition event on February 1st at Greenbelt Cultural Center.

7.0 Correspondence - None

8.0 Old Business

8.1 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving the Master Plan for Public Access Improvements and Habitat Restoration at Lakewood Forest Preserve – Planning Director Seebach distributed an executive summary and gave a presentation on the final Lakewood Master Plan, noting that the Plan was presented to the other standing committees and no changes were recommended. The Plan is consistent with the four planning goals by providing a more compact and efficient design with infrastructure that is right-sized, offering a significant reduction in the annual operating costs, is ADA compliant, is respectful of the site's sensitive natural resources and provides the appropriate balance between competing interests. He gave an overview of the Plan's public access and habitat restoration improvements and a Phase 1 implementation plan, which is funded almost entirely through the District's approved Capital Improvement Plan and an anticipated grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Other items will be phased in as funding becomes available. Mr. Seebach responded to questions, followed by public comments:

- Lynn Goodell—against removing trees and in favor of more policing of bicycles;
- Marie Storter—equestrian trails are dangerous;
- Robert Lang—against master plan, don't change it; why can't snowmobiles go on Millennium Trail;
- Sheila Watson—trails are dangerous with bikes and dogs, keep it as it is;
- Don Schaefer—thanked the committee for allowing snowmobiling;
- Elaine Ramesh, Equestrian Coalition of McHenry County—there is no balance among all the users;

Following public comment, a discussion ensued and Committee members provided additional comments. Motion by member Vealitzek, second by member Simpson to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed with member Hewitt opposed. Member Martini asked to change her vote to "Present" and there was unanimous consent from the Committee to allow the vote change. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

9.0 New Business:

9.1 Recommend approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract for Architectural and Engineering Services for the Grounds Maintenance Facility at Lakewood Forest Preserve to Williams Architects, Itasca, Illinois, in an amount not to exceed \$383,700.00 – Motion by member Clark, second by member Vealitzek to approve the recommendation. Mr. Kovach summarized the selection process used to select a firm to design a Net-Zero Building, and responded to questions. Voice vote being had, the motion passed with member Martini voting "Present". The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

9.2 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving a Real Estate Exchange Agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation to grant approximately 0.85 acres of permanent and temporary easements on Grand Avenue at Duck Farm Forest Preserve in exchange for fee-simple ownership of a 5.6-acre parcel north of Olde Half Day Road adjacent to Half Day Forest Preserve – Mr. Kovach distributed a revised document that included making the District's due diligence period after the resolution is approved by the Board but before the agreement is signed by the District. He showed the properties on maps, gave an overview of the exchange agreement and responded to questions. Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Martini 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.


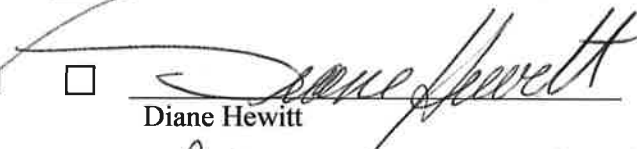





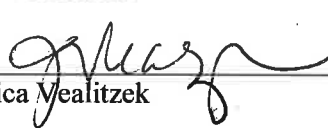
Member Simpson left the room at 2:19 p.m. and returned at 2:22 p.m.

10.0 Closed Session – Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Clark to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the purchase or lease of real property for the District, and setting a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The Committee went into closed session at 2:20 pm and returned to open session at 2:40 pm.

11.0 Next meeting: February 3, 2020

12.0 Adjournment – With no further business, Chair Wasik declared the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

APPROVED:

| | <u>AYE</u> | <u>NAY</u> | | <u>AYE</u> | <u>NAY</u> |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|  John Wasik, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |  Diane Hewitt | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Julie Simpson, Vice Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |  Judy Martini | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Dick Barr | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |  Linda Pedersen | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Jennifer Clark | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |  Jessica Nealitzek | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| _____ Adam R. Didech | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |