

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Planning Committee Minutes – January 9, 2023**

On Monday, January 9, 2023, the Planning Committee of the Lake County Forest Preserve District met at the District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

1.0 Call to order – Chair John Wasik called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2.0 Roll Call – Committee Secretary Gragnani called the roll and five committee members responded: Chair John Wasik, Vice Chair Paras Parekh, Marah Altenberg, Carissa Casbon, and Kevin Hunter.
Absent: Esiah Campos and Linda Pedersen.

Also Present:

Angelo Kyle, <i>President</i>	Ken Jones	Julie Gragnani
Commissioner Diane Hewitt	Pati Vitt	Kevin Kleinjan
Commissioner Paul Frank	John Tannahill	Paula Ali
Alex Kovach	Rebekah Snyder	Sandy Meyers
Matt Norton, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>	Nan Buckardt	Debbie Boness
Randy Seebach	Steve Neaman	Susan Pribyl
Mike Tully	John Nelson	Mick Zawislak, <i>Daily Herald</i> (Zoom)

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Frank led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Approve Minutes – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Hunter to approve the minutes of October 31, 2022. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

6.0 Public Comment (for items not on the agenda) – None

7.0 Executive Director Comments –Executive Director Kovach reported on:

- Construction of the new net-zero energy Ryerson Education Facility is 65% complete
- Have approved 21 "Buckthorn-Free" garden flag applications from residents
- Social media update, including the email newsletter sent out in October; the Facebook account recently reached 20,000 followers; The winter issue of Horizons is now available
- North Shore Gas pledged \$150,000 over 5 years to support the new Education Facility at Ryerson
- \$10,000 grant from ComEd to renew its support of the Science Explorers in Nature in 2023
- In the fourth quarter of 2022, the Preservation Foundation welcomed 155 new donors
- Dunn Museum attendance reached nearly 16,000 visitors in 2022
- Color and Light exhibition received more than 1,600 views during its six-week run
- The environmental educators have seen an increase in the number of programs that include a stewardship component

8.0 Unfinished Business - None

9.0 Correspondence - None

10.0 New Business

10.1 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for Long Lake Shoreline Stabilization Improvements at Grant Woods Forest Preserve to Integrated Lakes Management in the Contract Price of \$327,190.36 – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Hunter to approve the recommendation. Executive Director Kovach made opening remarks and Natural Resource Director Pati Vitt explained the project and grant funding for restoring 1,200 feet of shoreline erosion along Long Lake. The project will hopefully start in 2023 after the spring rains and will take 6 to 8 months. Public comment was given by Susan Pribyl of Ingleside, representing Manitou Creek Watershed Alliance, speaking in favor of the project. Director Vitt responded to questions and with a voice vote being had, the motion to approve passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.2 Policy direction regarding potential change in Licensee at Green Youth Farm in Lake County – Community Engagement & Partnerships Director Rebekah Snyder gave a background of the Green Youth Farm program and explained that the College of Lake County's (CLC) new Center for Urban Agriculture and Community Development reached out to both the Chicago Botanic Garden and the District about terminating the current license agreement to enter into a new agreement under which CLC and not the Botanic Garden would operate the Green Youth Farm program. The Botanic Garden submitted a letter requesting terminating its current license agreement effective February 3, 2023. Staff requested direction on pursuing the termination and explore a new license agreement or other relationship with CLC. Director Snyder noted that this would put a Lake County agency in lead management of the program, and that funding would be determined in the agreement. A general discussion ensued and it was the consensus of the committee to proceed in negotiations with CLC.

10.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving a Memorandum of Agreement to designate St. Francis Woods (within Independence Grove) as part of the Old-Growth Forest Network - Motion by member Altenberg, second by member Parekh to approve the recommendation. Director Snyder explained the Old-Growth Forest Network, noting that St. Francis Woods in Independence Grove was nominated by an OGFN volunteer coordinator to be designated as part of OGFN. The designation will raise awareness about the benefits of old-growth forests and increase support for their preservation and long-term care. The draft memorandum of Agreement has been reviewed by the Natural Resource Director. Ms. Snyder responded to questions and with a voice vote being had, the motion to approve passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.4 Approve Change Order No. 2 to Contract with Abbey Paving and Sealcoating Co. Inc. for installation of additional asphalt pavement adjacent to existing accessible parking stalls for new net-zero Education Facility at Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area, increasing the Contract amount by \$1,949.76 – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Altenberg to approve the recommendation. Planning and Land Preservation Director Randy Seebach explained that additional paving is needed adjacent to the accessible parking stalls to achieve full ADA compliance. The costs will be funded from the project's contingency. With a voice vote being had, the motion to approve passed unanimously.

10.5 Approve Change Order No.4 to Contract with Boller Construction Company, Inc. for installation of wood furring for exterior wall insulation for new Education Facility at Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area, increasing the Contract amount by \$42,124.93 – Motion by member Altenberg, second by member Hunter to approve the recommendation. Director Seebach explained that additional wood furring is needed due to a change in insulation material used. The costs will be funded from the project's contingency. With a voice vote being had, the motion to approve passed unanimously.

10.6 Approve Change Order No. 2 to Contract with Flo-Tech Mechanical Systems, Inc. for switch from standalone controls to a Trane building automation system for new Education Facility at Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area, increasing the Contract amount by \$40,865.00 – Motion by member Casbon,

second by member Altenberg to approve the recommendation. Director Seebach explained that the Trane building automation system will enable staff to better manage the facility's long-term care and monitoring the performance of the building remotely. Mr. Seebach responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. The costs will be funded from the project's contingency. With a voice vote being had, the motion to approve passed unanimously.

10.7 Policy direction regarding request from Village of Volo to grant 0.2 acres of permanent easement at Marl Flat Forest Preserve required for Fish Lake Road improvements and the installation and long-term maintenance of a multi-use path – Director Seebach showed the Fish Lake Road improvements project on a map and explained the easement requested by the Village of Volo. The project includes a new multi-use path that will link the Township's existing path to the Millennium Trail and Marl Flat Forest Preserve. Mr. Seebach responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the committee to proceed in negotiations for an easement agreement.





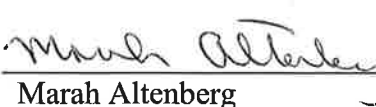
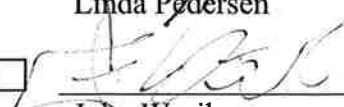
11.0 Miscellaneous Business – None

12.0 Closed Session – Motion by member Altenberg, second by member Hunter to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the purchase or lease of real property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 5, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 1:44 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:37 p.m.

13.0 Potential Action following Closed Session – None

14.0 Adjournment – Chair Wasik adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

APPROVED:

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>		<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
 _____ Paras Parekh, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 _____ J. Kevin Hunter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 _____ Carissa Casbon, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 _____ Linda Pedersen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 _____ Marah Altenberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 _____ John Wasik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Esiah Campos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			