

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Planning Committee Minutes – October 1, 2018**

The Lake County Forest Preserves’ Planning Committee met on Monday, October 1, 2018. 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 Carol Calabresa called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

<u>Members Present:</u>	<u>Also Present:</u>	
Carol Calabresa, Chair	Ann Maine, President	Rebekah Snyder
Sid Mathias, Vice Chair	Alex Ty Kovach	Ken Jones
Paul Frank (arrived 2:02pm)	Mike Tully	Julie Gragnani
Sandy Hart	Steve Neaman	Jordan Wagner
Linda Pedersen	Randy Seebach	Leslie Berns
Craig Taylor	Jim Anderson	Matt Norton – <i>Legal Counsel</i>
Jeff Werfel	Nan Buckardt	Don Wilson - <i>Lake County Audubon</i>
Tom Weber (arrived 1:08 pm)	Mary Kann	Jack Nowak – <i>Lake County Audubon</i>
Terry Wilke	John Nelson	Dan Venturi, <i>Supervisor – Lake Villa Township</i>
	Jim Siefken	Grant Benjamin – <i>Squaw Creek Clean Water Alliance</i>
	Katherine Hamilton-Smith	

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Member Jeff Werfel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

4.0 Public Comment – None

5.0 Executive Director Report –Executive Director Kovach distributed his report and commented on:

- Rollins Savanna parking lot and sewage system improvements;
- Buffalo Creek Forest Preserve parking lot closure;
- Ethel’s Woods/Raven Glen Underpass and Trail Connection public meeting;
- Cook County Forest Preserve Bike Share Pilot Project Update;
- Waukegan National Airport expansion project;
- Dunn Museum award and visit by Native artists who researched the museum’s Native American collection;
- CMAP “On To 2050” Launch Event;
- Working with Preservation Foundation Executive Director, Rebekah Snyder on maximizing a recent \$250,000 pledge to the endowment.

Member Weber arrived at 1:08 p.m.

6.0 Approval of Minutes – Motion by member Weber, second by member Taylor to approve the open session and executive session minutes from August 27, 2018. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

7.0 Correspondence - None

8.0 Old Business - None

9.0 New Business

9.1 Approve a motion to (i) release Committee closed session minutes, (ii) retain as confidential all other Committee closed session minutes not previously released, and (iii) erase Verbatim Recordings in

Accordance with Open Meetings Act and the District's Policy on Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Records as provided in Exhibit 1 to staff's memo dated October 1, 2018 - Motion by member Hart, second by member Mathias to release minutes and erase recordings as recommended on Exhibit 1. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

9.2 For Information Only – North Mill Creek Restoration Project Update – Ethel's Woods – Staff member Leslie Berns gave a presentation summarizing the progress on the North Mill Creek Restoration Project. She provided background and the work completed for phases I and II of the project. Ms. Berns then responded to questions and comments.

9.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding Contracts for Winter 2018 Woody Invasive Plant Clearing at Multiple Forest Preserves to Applied Ecological Services, Inc., Brodhead, Wisconsin in the Contract Price of \$34,926.40; JH Landworks, Wauconda, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$85,275.00; and Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc., Grayslake, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$787,880.00 - Director Jim Anderson summarized the recommendation, explaining that the District advertised for bids for multiple clearing projects under one consolidated bidding process and then further summarized each projects overall project budget and their respective low bid amounts. Director Anderson responded to questions regarding the discrepancy between the overall project budget vs the actual low bid amount and pointed out the clearing portion of the overall estimate was in line with the actual low bid amount. Motion by member Werfel, second by member Hart to recommend approval as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

9.4 For Information Only - Removal of building, road and parking lots at Almond Marsh Forest Preserve to address public safety concerns, eliminate unneeded infrastructure and environmental impacts, and reduce operational costs - Mr. Kovach explained that standing committees had given direction to remove the office building at Almond Marsh once Conserve Lake County's license ended. As part of the removal process, staff would also remove the entire paved area. He referred to a letter of objection received from the Lake County Audubon Society. Director Nan Buckardt responded to questions about the Rookery Watch Program and the plan to move the program to other preserves throughout the District. Public comment was given by Jack Nowak who spoke against removal of the road and closing access to the preserve permanently. Member Taylor summarized the discussion of the Operations Committee, who directed Staff to come back to the November meeting with possible alternatives for Audubon to have access. Staff should communicate with Audubon on the options.

9.5 Policy Direction regarding a request from Lake Villa Township for a perpetual easement for an existing storm sewer at Duck Farm Forest Preserve – Mr. Kovach summarized the project and requested authority to negotiate with the Township for the perpetual easement. Lake Villa Township Supervisor Dan Venturi spoke on behalf of Lake Villa Township's reason for requesting the perpetual easement. Mr. Venturi responded to questions, assuring there would be no change in the volume of stormwater entering the preserve as a result of the new storm sewer pipe. The consensus of the committee was to proceed with the negotiations with the Township.

9.6 Policy Direction regarding authority to have an appraisal prepared for the permanent and temporary easements Illinois Department of Transportation requires for proposed improvements to Illinois Route 132 west of Munn Road, at Duck Farm Forest Preserve – Mr. Kovach summarized the project with maps showing the easements that IDOT requires for proposed improvements. To determine the value of the easement parcels, staff requested authority to get an appraisal. The consensus of the committee was to proceed.

9.7 Recommend approval of a Resolution to purchase an approximately 0.18-acre property in Lake Villa Township, known as the Kleiner property, for \$990.00 as an addition to Fourth Lake Forest Preserve – Mr. Kovach presented the item with a map showing the property location and summerized the recommendation. Motion by member Weber, second by member Wilke to recommend approval as presented. Voice vote

being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

9.8 For Information Only – Countywide Land Acquisitions since the Cuneo addition in February 2016 – Mr. Kovach presented maps of all District land acquisitions since the Cuneo addition, totaling 518.13 acres (including Cuneo). President Maine requested a compilation of the net acreage gain for all the acquisitions presented, once property is exchanged or sold to other municipal agencies was taken into account. Land Preservation Manager Ken Jones will provide the additional information to President Maine and the Committee.

10.0 **Executive Session** – Motion by member Mathias, second by member Pedersen to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the purchase or lease of real property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 9, NAYS: 0. The Committee went into executive session at 2:25 p.m. and returned to open session at 3:05 p.m.

Mr. Jones calculated the net acreage gain requested during the discussion for item 9.7, and reported that the total was 498.75 acres.

11.0 **Next scheduled meeting:** November 5, 2018

12.0 **Adjourn** – With no further business, Chair Calabresa adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

APPROVED:

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>		<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
 Carol Calabresa, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Sidney Mathias, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Paul Frank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Sandra Hart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Linda Pedersen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Craig Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Tom Weber	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Jeff Weyfel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Terry Wilke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			