

**Lake County Forest Preserve District  
Planning Committee Minutes – October 31, 2022**

On Monday, October 31, 2022, the Planning Committee met at the Lake County Forest Preserve District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

**1.0 Call to order** –Chair Terry Wilke called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

**2.0 Roll Call** – Committee Secretary Gragnani called the roll and six committee members responded: Chair Terry Wilke, Carissa Casbon, Kevin Hunter, Linda Pedersen, Gina Roberts, and John Wasik. Diane Hewitt arrived at 1:05 pm. Absent: Vice Chair Marah Altenberg, Dick Barr.

**Also Present:**

Alex Kovach	Pati Vitt	Kevin Kleinjan
Mike Tully	Mary Kann	Butch Buckley, <i>Mayor, Third Lake</i>
Randy Seebach	Nan Buckardt	Matt Norton, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>
Ken Jones	Julie Gragnani	Betsy Gates Alford, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>
John Nelson	Helena Keller	Lucas Lilly, <i>RES (on Zoom)</i>
	Paula Ali	

**3.0 Pledge of Allegiance** – Member Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4.0 Addenda to the Agenda** – None

**5.0 Approve Minutes** – Motion by member Roberts, second by member Casbon to approve the minutes of August 29, 2022 and the joint meeting minutes of October 3, 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:

- Electricity production from the new photovoltaic array installed on Ryerson Welcome Center roof;
- Golf Operations surpassed \$5 million in gross revenue for the second straight season;
- Guided night-time strolls during October;
- Preservation Foundation event for the On To 2050 exhibition at the Dunn Museum;
- Videos from the Dunn Museum Latinx project featured at College of Lake County;
- Oaktober Tree and Shrub sale results;
- Adaptive fishing program presented recently;
- Construction industry professionals visited the Ryerson construction site as part of PHIUS training;
- \$500,000 commitment to the Community Campaign for the Foundation;
- Grant application to Illinois EPA Section 319 Program was accepted, for Long Lake restoration;
- Valent BioSciences donated \$15,000 for replacing invasive trees at the General Offices;
- Summary of social media post showing fall colors;
- Mass mailing to residents within the Buckthorn Eradication Pilot Project area around Middlefork;
- Fall 2022 issue of Horizons is available.

**8.0 Unfinished Business** - None

## **9.0 Correspondence**

9.1 Written correspondence regarding request from Village of Third Lake (Item 10.1) – A petition and various emails received from residents on Third Lake were distributed to the committee.

## **10.0 New Business**

10.1 Policy direction regarding a request to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Third Lake – Chief Operations Officer Mike Tully explained that the District was notified by a local resident that the Village of Third Lake had placed buoys on Third Lake that appeared to be anchored on lakebed owned by the District, which was later confirmed. Mr. Tully met with the Village Mayor, who explained that every summer for the past 10 years or so, the buoys have been placed there by local residents to mark a slalom waterski course; this part of the lake is sheltered and offers calm water the skiers prefer. About three years ago these residents were asked by the Village to form a club to obtain liability insurance coverage. Mr. Tully advised the Mayor that he could not grant permission for this activity and would need policy direction from the Board on entering into a formal agreement with the Village or the ski club that would allow this use. The District was added as additional insured on the club's insurance for the rest of this summer while the Village put a request in writing to keep the buoys on District land.

When the request was received there were additional requests included. The Village asked the District to: 1) agree to the Village's regulation of motorized watercraft on the surface of Third Lake; 2) agree on the Village's ability to treat for invasive species on the portion of the lakebed owned by the District; and 3) allow for the placement of the seasonal buoys anchored on the District's portion of the lakebed. Mr. Tully explained that staff sees no benefit in agreeing to request #1, but does see a benefit in request #2. Regarding request #3, staff sees no benefit to the District. There are no negative ecological or operational impacts from the buoys and correspondence was received from several residents that the skiing is a nuisance. The District could grant a license for recreational use of its property but it would be handled as a new use and would have to be widely available to the general public.

Chair Wilke called for public comment; comments were given by the following:

- Richard Nasatir: in favor of invasive species control; opposed to buoys/slalom water ski course on District property;
- Mary Carus: opposed to buoys/slalom water ski course on District property; in favor of invasive species control;
- Ronald Schmidt (on Zoom): referred to signed citizen statement; opposed to all three Village requests.

Following public comment, Mr. Tully responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. During discussion Mayor Buckley stated that the ski course is not the Village's project, but if the District were to allow this use, the Village would facilitate getting a contract and certificate of insurance each year. He added that the Village works with the Health Department and Clark Environmental on the invasive species control, and explained the Village's need for boat stickers for regulation and safety. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the committee to work on agreement for their request #2 only – treatment of invasive species. The recommendation will go to the Finance Committee later in the week.

10.2 For Information Only – US Army Corps of Engineers Upper Des Plaines River Phase II Feasibility Plan and funding to pursue the Design Phase of the restoration project at Raven Glen Forest Preserve – Natural Resource Director Pati Vitt briefly explained the Upper Des Plaines River Phase II Feasibility Plan and that there are three District projects included in the Plan. Recently the ACOE notified the District that it has funding to pursue the Preconstruction, Engineering and Design (PED) portion of the Raven Glen project. Staff intends to send a follow-up Letter of Intent (LOI) to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) to reiterate the District's support for the Raven Glen project and stating the District's intent to fund the local share of the PED costs for the project. The follow-up LOI will reiterate the District's interest and support,

and does not financially commit the District to pursue the project beyond the PED phase. Director Vitt responded to questions and a general discussion ensued.

10.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution Approving a Partnership Participation Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Restoration of Dutch Gap Forest Preserve, and to rescind a prior Resolution Motion by member Hunter, second by member Roberts to approve the recommendation. Director Vitt summarized the project and noted that the ACOE provided the wrong agreement when the Board previously approved a Resolution. This Resolution rescinds the prior Resolution and approves the correct Partnership Participation Agreement. Ms. Vitt responded to questions and with a voice vote being had, the motion to approve passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the Finance Committee.

10.4 Recommend approval of an Ordinance approving a License Agreement with HGS, LLC, for the Development and Operation of a Wetland Mitigation Bank at Prairie Stream Forest Preserve – Director Vitt summarized the project and noted that the Request for Proposals that went out also included a mitigation bank at Ray Lake Forest Preserve. That agreement is still being worked on, but staff is ready to proceed with the Prairie Stream project. She summarized the Prairie Stream site on a map, noting that it is currently in farming, which will continue until the project is fully permitted, through 2023 and possibly 2024. She responded to questions and summarized the process of mitigation banks. With a voice vote being had, the committee unanimously approved the recommendation (no motion was made) and the recommendation was forwarded to the Finance Committee.

Member Hunter left the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

10.5 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the purchase of entry fencing and gate materials for the off-leash dog area at the Duck Farm Forest Preserve to Technology International, Inc., in the Contract Price of \$55,285.00 – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Hewitt to approve the recommendation. Planning Director Randy Seebach summarized the project on a map and noted that because bids came in higher than budget, the decision was made to purchase just the materials with the budgeted funds and provide the labor with in-house crews. Also, the lowest bid was rejected as non-responsive. Mr. Seebach responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. With a voice vote being had, the motion to approve passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the Finance Committee.

10.6 For Information Only - Millennium Trail Planned Route Presentation –Director Seebach provided background on the Lake County Regional Trails and reviewed the original planned route of the Millennium Trail through Round Lake. Due to various challenges and impacts, a new route has been proposed that will be less expensive, is closer to downtown Round Lake, and connects two forest preserves. It will also include multi-use paths that LCDOT is required to construct anyway as part of their Cedar Lake Road realignment and Hainesville Road improvement projects. Staff will meet with Round Lake Area Park District about the possibility of their taking over maintenance of sections of the original trail route that are already completed. Mr. Seebach responded to questions and a general discussion ensued with no objections.

10.7 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement providing for the granting of temporary easements and the conveyance of fee simple interest in District property to the Libertyville Township Road District required for the Oak Spring Road Bridge Replacement project at Wilmot Woods Forest Preserve – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Roberts to approve the recommendation. Planning Director Randy Seebach summarized the project on a map and reviewed the temporary easements needed and the proposed conveyance of 0.1 acres of fee simple interest in District property to the Road District. Construction is anticipated to start in 2024-25. Mr. Seebach responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. With a voice vote being had, the motion to approve passed unanimously. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.



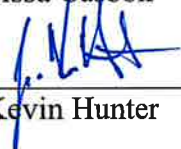

**11.0 Miscellaneous Business – None**

**12.0 Closed Session** – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Pedersen 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: 6, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 2:38 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:46 p.m.

**13.0 Potential Action following Closed Session** – None

**14.0 Adjournment** – Chair Wilke adjourned the meeting at 2:47 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"/>	 _____ Carissa Casbon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Paras Parekh, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 _____ J. Kevin Hunter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 _____ Marah Altenberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Linda Pedersen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Esiah Campos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			