

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Planning Committee Minutes – November 1, 2021**

On Monday, November 1, 2021, pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the October 1, 2021 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, and the Written Determination of the District President attached to the Agenda, the Planning Committee met via Audio and Video conference and at the Lake County Forest Preserve District’s General Offices.

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 seven committee members responded: Terry Wilke, Chair; Marah Altenberg, Vice Chair; Carissa Casbon, Kevin Hunter, Linda Pedersen, Gina Roberts, and John Wasik (in meeting room). Members Dick Barr and Diane Hewitt joined after roll call.

Also Present on Zoom:

Angelo Kyle, President
Jessica Vealitzek
Julie Simpson
Paul Frank
Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel
Jim Anderson
John Tannahill
John Nelson
Mary Kann
Nan Buckardt
Mike Tully
Rebekah Snyder
Susan Zingle

Also Present in Meeting Room:

Alex Ty Kovach
Randy Seebach
Ken Jones
Julie Gragnani
Debbie Boness
Skip Goss, Waukegan Airport
Lynn Goodell

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

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Approval of Minutes – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Roberts to approve the minutes of October 4, 2021. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 8, NAYS: 0.

6.0 Public Comment (for items not on the agenda) – Lynn Goodell, representing Lake County Mounted Posse, thanked the committee for new signage at Lakewood and asked when the Ethel’s Woods/Raven Glen underpass would be open; and asked about trailer parking and use of the Shelter E area during Lakewood’s closure. Planning Director Randy Seebach responded to her questions.

7.0 Executive Director Comments – Executive Director Kovach reported on the following and responded to questions:

- New kayak paddle program to the Stevenson House;
- Grant Woods Long Lake Shoreline Stabilization project delayed 6 to 9 months;
- Golf courses season is over; new records were set for rounds played and revenue generated;
- Lake County School ROTC students helped out at Greenbelt workday;
- Partnership with USDA APHIS National Wildlife Research Center on deer abundance;
- \$2 million anonymous donation has been approved for the net-Zero Ryerson Education building;
- Moody’s has assigned the District a Triple-A bond rating;

- Article on Denver’s park system validating our focus on maintaining the health and safety of our existing preserves.

8.0 Correspondence - None

9.0 Unfinished Business - None

10.0 New Business

10.1 Policy direction regarding Cooperating Agency Invitation Letter from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Waukegan National Airport – Executive Director Kovach summarized an invitation from the FAA to serve with several other government agencies in the process of reviewing the forthcoming Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) related to the Waukegan Port District’s planned expansion of the Waukegan National Airport. He noted that the District does not have to accept; if we do, we would have to respond in writing and then staff would be able to review and comment on the EA in advance of its release.

- Public comment: Susan Zingle – spoke against partnering with airport on this issue.

Mr. Kovach responded to questions from committee members, noting that the 2017 Letter of Intent (LOI) is still in place and they would now work toward a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), to which the FAA would also be a party. Most language from the LOI would move into the MOA, and would guarantee the District that the Port District will not be able to renege on their agreement and would protect the District. Any items not covered in the MOA could be addressed in a separate intergovernmental agreement with the Port District.

- Member Hewitt relayed a comment from a constituent that she was one of many who signed a petition many years ago in favor of the District purchasing property in order to stop future expansion of the airport.

Staff and Attorney Norton responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. Chair Wilke asked if it is possible to say in its response that the District’s participation as a Cooperating Agency is not an endorsement of the airport project and does not obligate the District in any way. Mr. Norton replied that language could be included in the District’s response letter. Member Wasik asked if language could also be added that becoming a Cooperating Agency does not commit the District to the MOA; Mr. Norton said it could be added. After discussion it was the consensus of the committee to move forward to be a Cooperating Agency and send the response letter.

10.2 Recommend approval of Resolution approving Dedication of a portion of Ivanhoe Road within Lakewood Forest Preserve to Fremont Township – Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Altenberg to approve the recommendation. Executive Director Kovach showed a map of Ivanhoe Road and the location where the road was relocated outside the right-of-way. The dedication will fix this error that dates back to the 1960’s. Ken Jones responded to questions. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 9, NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution to sell a 1,248-square foot parcel adjacent to Wilmot Woods Forest Preserve, located in Libertyville Township – Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Altenberg to approve the recommendation. Executive Director Kovach noted that this transaction will resolve the encroachment issue on the parcel being acquired from the Village of Libertyville. The encroachment predates both the District’s and the neighboring owner’s possession and meets the requirements of the Downstate Forest Preserve Act permitting the sale of a parcel of land that is part of a new acquisition. Attorney Norton responded to questions and provided legal clarifications. Roll call vote being had, the motion to approve passed by a vote of: AYES: 9, NAYS: 0. 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 Altenberg 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: 8, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 1:53 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:35 p.m.

13.0 Potential Action following Closed Session – None

14.0 Adjournment –Chair Wilke noted that the next meeting is December 6, 2021 and adjourned the meeting at 2:36 p.m.

APPROVED:

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>		<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Terry Wilke, Chair			J. Kevin Hunter		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marah Altenberg, Vice Chair			Linda Pedersen		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dick Barr			Gina Roberts		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carissa Casbon			John Wasik		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Diane Hewitt					

Secretary’s Note: Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the November 12, 2021 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, and Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the Planning Committee met via audio and video conference on Monday, December 6, 2021. These Minutes were approved by a Roll Call vote at that meeting:

AYES: 8 (Altenberg, Barr, Casbon, Hewitt, Hunter, Pedersen, Roberts, Wasik)
 NAYS: 0
 ABSENT: 1 (Wilke)



 Committee Secretary