

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Planning Committee Minutes – December 4, 2023**

On Monday, December 4, 2023, 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 – With a quorum observed, Chair Paras Parekh 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 Paras Parekh, Vice Chair Carissa Casbon, Marah Altenberg, Kevin Hunter, and John Wasik.
Absent: Esiah Campos and Linda Pedersen.

Also Present:

Angelo Kyle, President	Steve Neaman	Julie Gragnani
Alex Ty Kovach	Rebekah Snyder	Paula Ali
Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel	Mary Kann	Kim Mikus Croke
Randy Seebach	Ron Davis	Kevin Kleinjan
John Nelson	Nan Buckardt	Alyssa Firkus
Pati Vitt	Dan Stearns	Debbie Boness

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Member Hunter 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 the November 6, 2023 meeting. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously, and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

6.0 Public Comment – None

7.0 Executive Director Comments – Executive Director Kovach reported on:

- Recognition of Directors Randy Seebach and Nan Buckardt retirement and new directors;
- Grants and donations through the Preservation Foundation to the Education Department over the past 8 years; Giving Tuesday social media campaign raised over \$9,000 to support the Foundation;
- \$6.6 million in the endowment fund so far; Foundation events and November board meeting;
- CLC has occupancy permit for the Prairie Café at Brae Loch Golf Club;
- Environmental Educators' partnership with Meadowview School in Grayslake;
- Dunn Museum staff took part in Native American Heritage Month event at Libertyville High School;
- Successful advertising campaign promoting the Beer Garden at Independence Grove;
- Staff presented Healthy Hedges program to University of Illinois Extension office in Grayslake;
- Next exhibit at Dunn Museum will be Managing Healthy Landscapes;
- Gallery light fixtures were recently upgraded to LED in the museum;
- The new net-zero grounds maintenance shop is now under construction at Lakewood with estimated completion in early summer 2024.

8.0 Correspondence - None

9.0 Unfinished Business - None

10.0 New Business

10.1 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) for the Grainger Woods Hydrologic Restoration Project – Motion by member Hunter, second by member Casbon to approve the recommendation. Mr. Kovach showed the project site on a map and noted that this agreement results from a Request for Proposals from SMC to do wetland mitigation along the Des Plaines River. The District submitted a proposal which was accepted, and the District will receive \$354,695 from SMC for restoration at the Preserve. The District’s matching contribution is \$376,540, primarily coming from land value and in-kind services. Natural Resource Director Pati Vitt responded to questions. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.2 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving a Recreational Lease with Commonwealth Edison at Independence Grove Forest Preserve – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Hunter to approve the recommendation. Mr. Kovach showed the location of the ComEd easement on a map and noted that this is a 10-year lease for District trails to cross the ComEd right-of-way. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.2 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving a Recreational Lease with Commonwealth Edison at Lake Carina Forest Preserve – Motion by member Altenberg, second by member Wasik to approve the recommendation. Mr. Kovach showed the location of the ComEd easement on a map. With the same terms as Item 10.2, the lease is for 10 years for District trails to cross the ComEd right-of way. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

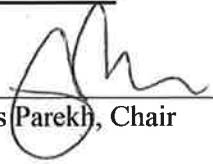

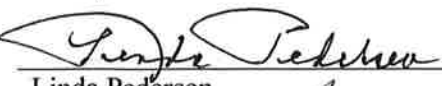
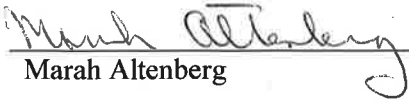
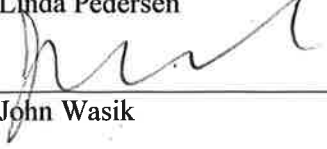
11.0 Miscellaneous Business – Committee members expressed their appreciation to Directors Seebach and Buckardt for their service to the District over the years.

12.0 Closed Session –Motion by member Wasik, second by member Casbon to go into closed session to discuss the purchase or lease of real property; and the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 5, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 1:22 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:07 p.m.

13.0 Potential Action following Closed Session – None

14.0 Adjournment – Chair Parekh adjourned the meeting at 2:07 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"/>			