

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

On Monday, February 1, 2021, pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the January 8, 2021 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, the Governor’s Executive Order No. 2021-1, and the Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve 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 1:02 pm.

2.0 Roll Call – Committee Secretary Gragnani called the roll and eight committee members responded: Terry Wilke, Chair, Marah Altenberg, Vice Chair, Carissa Casbon, Diane Hewitt, Judy Martini, Linda Pedersen, Gina Roberts, John Wasik. Member Dick Barr was absent.

Also Present:

Angelo Kyle, President
Bill Durkin
Sandy Hart
Craig Taylor
Alex Kovach
Mike Tully
Randy Seebach

Also Present:

Jim Anderson
Katherine Hamilton-Smith
Mary Kann
Steve Neaman
John Nelson
Ken Jones
Rebekah Snyder

Also Present:

Julie Gragnani
Debbie Boness
Kim Mikus Croke
Michael Haug
Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel
Eric Waggoner

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

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Approval of Minutes – Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Martini to approve open session minutes from the October 25, 2020 special meeting, and the January 4, 2021 meeting. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 8; NAYS: 0.

6.0 Public Comment – Chair Wilke asked if there was anyone listening or present who wished to provide public comment for items not on the agenda. There was no response.

7.0 Executive Director Comments – Executive Director Kovach reported on:

- Preservation Foundation’s recent Development and Finance Committee meetings and engaged a direct mail firm in late 2020 to help secure new donors;
- 2021 Profiles in Excellence on February 6, and will be presented in a virtual format;
- Winter issue of Horizons is now available;
- Request by Abbvie to set up the Greenbelt Cultural Center as a Covid-19 vaccination location for local teachers and other eligible people in the area;
- Preserve visitors, Instagram and Facebook use have all increased;
- Various projects in progress;
- North Mill Creek Restoration project received an award from the American Council of Engineering Companies.

8.0 Correspondence - None

9.0 Unfinished Business

9.1 For Information Only: Long Lake Shoreline Restoration Project – Natural Resource Director Jim Anderson gave a history of the area, noting that in 2004 the District stabilized the shoreline, but ran out of funds with 90 feet remaining. Now those 90 feet are severely eroded and funds were set aside to engage an engineer to find a solution for the erosion, and to replace the existing boat ramp with an ADA-compliant ramp. A 319 Grant will be applied for, and staff is seeking permits from Lake County Stormwater Management Commission and the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Anderson then summarized the restoration plan and reviewed the project's progress. An early 2022 construction start is anticipated. Mr. Anderson responded to questions and explained the funding; and several committee members commented. Public comment was given by Susan Pribyl of Ingleside, who spoke in favor of the project and thanked the District.

9.2 For Information Only – Review and comment on Oriole Grove Preliminary Master Plan – Planning Director Randy Seebach gave a presentation explaining the preliminary master plan, followed by questions and comments from Commissioners. Public comment was given by: Benjamin Miller, Lake Bluff Open Lands, who explained the buckthorn on their property was part of a previous agreement to preserve screening for the adjacent neighbors and they will be looking at replacing it with native species; and was in favor of the east trail aligning with the entrance to their trail. Rick Lesser spoke in favor of the plan and in favor of the loop trail, and against a parking lot. Director Seebach asked for authorization to share the master plan with the other committees and then on for Board approval in March. There were no objections.

10.0 New Business

10.1 Recommend approval of a Resolution Approving a Property Access Agreement with the North Shore Water Reclamation District for Ecological Management of the Waukegan Dunes Area, Illinois Natural Area Inventory Site, as part of the Chiwaukee Prairie Illinois Beach Lake Plain restoration project, and rescinding a prior resolution – Executive Director Kovach gave an introduction and Natural Resource Director Jim Anderson showed the project using maps and explained an indemnification clause that was not in the first resolution. Attorney Norton explained that this clause would require the District to indemnify NSWRD for their own negligence, which PDRMA would not cover. However, staff felt that the nature of the work will not require NSWRD to be onsite and that risk of a claim would be very remote. The other revision from the first resolution was that the District secured a 5-year time period on the agreement, instead of a year at a time. Mr. Anderson and Attorney Norton responded to questions. Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Altenberg to approve the recommendation as presented. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.2 Recommend approval of a Resolution Approving a Property Access and Cost Sharing Agreement with the Chicago Bears Football Club for Buckthorn Removal – Director Kovach explained the need to go on Chicago Bears property to conduct the buckthorn removal program. Motion by member Wasik, second by member Roberts to approve the recommendation. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.3 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for Millennium Trail Advance Tree Clearing at Pine Dunes Forest Preserve to Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc. in the Contract Price of \$48,501.36 Director Kovach summarized the project on a map. Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Wasik to approve the recommendation as presented. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.4 Recommend approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract for Pre-Construction Services for the Net Zero Maintenance Facility at Lakewood Forest Preserve to Wight Construction Services, Inc., in the Contract Price of \$41,360.00 – Operations and Infrastructure Director John Nelson explained the selection process used for this construction manager, who has experience building net-zero facilities, and the plan to

use this contractor for the other net-zero building if the relationship is positive. Motion by member Roberts, second by member Pedersen to approve the recommendation as presented. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.5 Policy direction regarding a request from Openlands to install a sign at Independence Grove identifying the Liberty Prairie Reserve - Director Seebach gave a history of the Liberty Prairie Reserve and noted that they are seeking permission to place a 28" x 44" sign near the North Bay Pavilion at Independence Grove. It would explain the preserve and its uniqueness. Mr. Seebach responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. Member Wasik felt there should be a trail connection to Almond Marsh. The consensus of the committee was to proceed, subject to approval of District staff.

Motion by member Martini, second by member Roberts, to approve 10.6 and 10.7 in one roll call vote:

10.6 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving a Recreational Lease with Commonwealth Edison at Lake Carina Forest Preserve

10.7 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving a Recreational Lease with Commonwealth Edison at Sedge Meadow Forest Preserve

Director Kovach summarized the need to renew the recreational leases and showed them on maps. On the motion to approve 10.6 and 10.7, roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The recommendations were forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.8 Recommend approval of an Ordinance vacating a portion of Morton Drive within Duck Farm Forest Preserve - Motion by member Martini, second by member Hewitt to approve. Director Kovach showed the road vacation on a map and reviewed the proposed road vacation. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

11.0 Miscellaneous Business – None

12.0 Closed Session – Motion by member Martini, second by member Casbon 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 the following vote: AYES: 8, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 2:39 p.m. and returned to open session at 3:02 p.m.

13.0 Potential Action following Closed Session – None

14.0 Adjournment – With no further business, Chair Wilke declared the meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

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APPROVED:

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>		<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Terry Wilke, Chair			Judy Martini		
_____	<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					

Planning Committee Secretary’s Note: Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the February 5, 2021, Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, the Governor’s Executive Orders No. 2021-4 and Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the Planning Committee met via audio and video conference on Monday, March 1, 2021. These Minutes were approved by a Roll Call vote at that meeting:

AYES: 9 (Altenberg, Barr, Casbon, Hewitt, Martini, Pedersen, Roberts, Wasik, Wilke)
 NAYS: 0
 ABSENT: 0

Julie Bragman
 Committee Secretary