

**Lake County Forest Preserves
Finance Committee Minutes – February 7, 2019**

The Lake County Forest Preserve District Finance Committee met on Thursday, February 7, 2019. 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 Terry Wilke called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Committee Members Present:

Terry Wilke, Chair
Paul Frank, Vice Chair
Steve Carlson
Michael Danforth
Sandy Hart
Ann Maine
Mike Rummel
Julie Simpson
John Wasik

Also Present:

Angelo Kyle, President	Katherine Hamilton-Smith
Alex Ty Kovach	Randy Seebach
Mike Tully	Rebekah Snyder
Mary Kann	John Tannahill
Steve Neaman	Dan Stearns
Jim Anderson	Julie Gragnani
Jim Ballowe	Matt Norton, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>
Nan Buckardt	

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Member Steve Carlson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

4.0 Public Comment – None

5.0 Executive Director Comments – Executive Director Kovach distributed and reviewed the items on his written report:

- ComEd renewal of \$20,000 grant to expand STEM educational program
- Job Fair on February 16 at Greenbelt Cultural Center
- New York Times article on Marvelocity exhibition at Dunn Museum
- Profiles in Excellence, February 17 at Greenbelt Cultural Center
- Healthy Hedges program and new brochure
- Chicago Region Trees Initiative Master Plan 2050 Goals
- Annual Volunteer Recognition event on February 9 at Greenbelt Cultural Center
- Bi-weekly column in Daily Herald written by staff member Kim Kroke

6.0 Approval of Minutes – Motion by member Simpson, second by member Hart to approve the minutes of January 10, 2019. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were passed around the table for signatures.

7.0 Correspondence – None

8.0 New Business

8.1 Recommend approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract for the 2019 Reforestation Watering at Multiple Forest Preserves to McGinty Bros., Inc., Long Grove, Illinois, in the Contract Price of \$36,780.00
Director Kovach noted that this project was approved as part of the Capital Improvement Plan. He explained that the low bidder was rejected as non-responsive because the bid did not contain the required commitment letters regarding insurance coverage and bonding. Staff recommended awarding the contract to the second bidder. Motion by member Maine, second by member Rummel to approve the recommendation as

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

8.2 Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Amending the 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan and the FY 2018/2019 Budget – Mr. Kovach summarized the recommendation, which included the changes discussed at the January 28 joint committee meeting. He noted that the next CIP review will be at the early June joint committee meeting. Staff asked for approval to make the following amendments to existing funded projects in the CIP:

- 1) Duck Farm DEA Accessibility, add \$60,000; dollars will come from the Facilities Replacement Fund to accelerate completion of accessibility improvements.
- 2) Fort Sheridan Public Access Improvements, add \$80,560; additional funds needed for refurbishing the existing steel bridge; dollars being added back in from the funds released last year.
- 3) Millennium Trail-McDonald Woods to Route 45, add \$25,000; additional funds of \$14,000 needed to cover the District's portion of the estimated local share, plus contingency.
- 4) Spring Bluff Wildlife Observation Area, reduction of \$85,862.34; project completed; costs were lower due to excellent bid pricing and construction management.

Staff also requested to add Greenbelt Habitat Restoration as a project in the CIP in the amount of \$77,000; due to staff resources that will be applied to this project, it is recommended that the project be added to the CIP, even though it is grant funded. Motion by member Maine and second by member Simpson to approve the recommendation as presented. Member Maine commented on releasing funds prematurely and against policy on the Fort Sheridan project and now having to put funds back, and cautioned against this in the future. She also noted that the dollar amount for the Millennium Trail connection would have been larger had the District not gone to the Village of Lindenhurst to cover the cost of the trail portion that benefits them. Chair Wilke added that the CIP is very fiscally conservative. Mr. Kovach noted that the direction of the joint committees on January 28 was to have a balanced CIP at the next joint meeting in June. In order to do that, he will have to work on making additional changes. He added that there are a number of IDOT projects that are completed, some going back to 2015, however our funds won't be released until the projects are officially closed out. On the motion and second, voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

8.3 For Information Only – Greenbelt Cultural Center Presentation – Facilities Director Jim Ballowe introduced Dan Stearns, Superintendent, Recreational Facilities. They gave an operational overview on the Greenbelt Cultural Center, including staff's four goals of sustainability, competitive pricing, engaging the community, and public accessibility. Their slides showed operational losses from 2006 through 2018. Mr. Ballowe explained how expenses have been reduced by 56% since 2015 and summarized the strategies used over the years to try to increase revenues. A new manager is now on site and revenue projections are up. Money has been invested to update the technology and create a new bride room. The overall goal is to keep reducing the subsidy provided by the District for the facility and reach a break-even point by 2023. He spoke about the pricing structure and strategies that will be developed, and new ways to engage with the community. He spoke of marketing and branding efforts planned, including developing a new logo and identity, updating promotional materials and developing a social media presence. Mr. Ballowe and Mr. Stearns responded to questions and a lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Kovach cautioned that public funds should not be subsidizing private events. As discussion ended, Mr. Ballowe felt confident that staff is going in the right direction to restart the rentals at Greenbelt, and when this is established they hope to come back to committee with a request to increase rates.



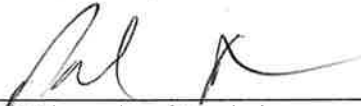

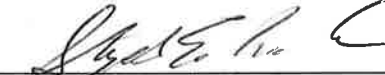
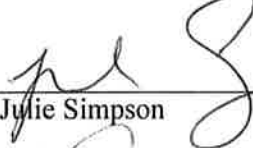
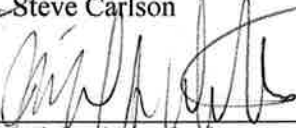
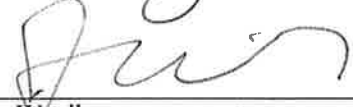

11.0 Old Business - None

12.0 Closed Session - Motion by member Frank, second by member Simpson to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 9, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 2:10 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:23 p.m.

13.0 Next meeting: March 7, 2019

14.0 Adjourn – With no further business, Chair Wilke adjourned the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

APPROVED:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>		<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
 Terry Wilke, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Ann B. Maine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Paul Frank, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 S. Michael Rummel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Steve Carlson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Julie Simpson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Michael Danforth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 John Wasik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Sandy Hart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			