

**Lake County Forest Preserve District  
Planning Committee Minutes – March 2, 2020**

The Lake County Forest Preserves' Planning Committee met on Monday, March 2, 2020. 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 John Wasik called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

**Members Present:**

John Wasik, Chair  
Julie Simpson, Vice Chair  
Jennifer Clark  
Linda Pedersen  
Jessica Vealitzek

**Absent:**

Dick Barr (NaCO)  
Diane Hewitt  
Judy Martini (NaCO)

**Also Present:**

Paul Frank  
Ann Maine  
Alex Kovach  
Mike Tully  
Randy Seebach  
Ken Jones  
Jim Anderson  
Steve Neaman  
Mary Kann  
John Nelson

**Also Present:**

Katherine Hamilton-Smith  
Nan Buckardt  
Julie Gragnani  
Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel  
Don Wilson  
Lynn Goodell  
Jeff Smith, Park Dist. of Highland Park  
Rebecca Grill, Park Dist. of Highland  
Dan Voss, Park Dist. of Highland Park

**2.0 Pledge of Allegiance** – Member Simpson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3.0 Approval of Minutes** – Motion by member Clark, second by member Simpson to approve the open session and closed session minutes from February 3, 2020. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

**4.0 Public Comment** – None

**5.0 Addenda to the Agenda** – None

**6.0 Executive Director's Report** – Executive Director Kovach reported on:

- Strategic Planning progress to date;
- Best Places to Work employee survey had 78% participation, up from last time;
- Update on demolition phase at Lakewood;
- New exhibit in Committee Room exhibit case and refreshed Native American Gallery in the Dunn Museum;
- A classroom set of iPads for the Education Department, from a grant by ComEd;
- Maple Syrup programs and Birdwatching Hotspots;
- Planning update and event goals for 2020 Civil War Days event, including focus groups;
- Electronic waiver forms created for use at Independence Grove;
- Request from Village of Antioch and Antioch Township for letter of support from the District for their Bike Path grant request; Planning and Land Preservation Director Randy Seebach responded to questions.
- Des Plaines River Watershed Workgroup Annual Accomplishments Report; Natural Resource Director Jim Anderson provided further comments and responded to questions.

**7.0 Correspondence** - None

## **8.0 Old Business**

8.1 Policy direction regarding second request from Lake County Regional Bike Share Consortium to participate in a two-year bike share pilot program in the Village of Grayslake area including Rollins Savanna Forest Preserve - Planning and Land Preservation Director Randy Seebach summarized the second request from the Lake County Regional Bike Share Consortium to participate in a two-year bike share pilot project by sponsoring a bike docking station at Rollins Savanna Forest Preserve, at a cost of \$9,500 per year. This request was brought to the Planning and Operations Committees in November 2019 for policy direction. Both committees were supportive of the program but did not support being a financial partner, and requested the Consortium reframe their request without a financial commitment from the District.

Their second request includes three options for support: 1) a letter of support of the bike share program; 2) permitting a docking station at the Washington Street entrance to Rollins Savanna; and 3) financially sponsor a docking station with five bikes at Rollins Savanna for two years at a total cost of \$19,000. Staff recommended the first option. Mr. Seebach noted that the Operations Committee supported the first option during its meeting earlier in the day. Mr. Seebach and Attorney Norton responded to questions and a general discussion ensued regarding liability issues, ADA concerns and associated staff and legal costs. Chair Wasik added he would engage with the Village of Grayslake and Grayslake Park District on other solutions to get bikes into Rollins Savanna. Member Simpson requested additional details on liability to guide the committee in any future discussions on the bike program. Following additional discussion it was the consensus of the committee to proceed with option one, the letter of support.

## **9.0 New Business**

9.1 Recommend approval of Ordinance approving First Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Park District of Highland Park and City of Highland Park - Director Seebach introduced Park District of Highland Park staff and gave a presentation on the history of the IGA and the details of the provisions in the amendment, which has been negotiated and agreed to by all parties. Mr. Seebach responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. Commissioner Frank expressed his appreciation to the Committee and the Park District for their work on the matter. Motion by member Simpson, second by member Clark 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.

9.2 Recommend approval of Resolution awarding Contract for Civil Engineering Services for Site Improvements at Lakewood Forest Preserve to Pearson, Brown and Associates, Inc., Libertyville, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$291,500.00 - Mr. Kovach summarized the recommendation and responded to questions. Motion by member Clark, second by member Vealitzek 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.

9.3 Recommend approval of Resolution awarding Contract for Architectural Services for Recreation Facilities at Lakewood Forest Preserve to Bleck and Bleck Architects, LLC, Libertyville, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$104,900.00 - Mr. Kovach summarized the recommendation and Director Seebach responded to questions. Motion by member Clark, second by member Vealitzek 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.

9.4 Recommend approval of Ordinance amending 2020 Budget and 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan to increase expenditures by \$200,000.00 to fund development of a master plan for the Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area - Mr. Kovach showed the area on a map and provided background information, explaining that a donor has come forward to fund \$200,000 for master planning, which is on the unfunded list. Staff recommended to amend the budget and add the project back onto the funded list to take advantage of this donation. A proposal to fund a new net-zero education building would then be

considered by the donor foundation. Staff responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Vealitzek 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.

**10.0 Closed Session** – Motion by member Simpson, second by member Clark to go into closed session for the purpose of reviewing approved closed session minutes for release or retention, and deletion of verbatim recordings; discussing the purchase or lease of real property, and setting a price for sale or lease of property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 5, NAYS: 0. The Committee went into closed session at 2:00 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:37 p.m.

**11.0 Next meeting:** April 6, 2020

**12.0 Adjournment** –With no further business, Chair Wasik declared the meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

**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"/>
John Wasik, Chair			Diane Hewitt		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Julie Simpson, Vice Chair			Judy Martini		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marah Altenberg			Linda Pedersen		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dick Barr			Jessica Vealitzek		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Jennifer Clark					

**Secretary's Note:**

Pursuant to the Illinois Governor's Executive Orders 2020-7, 2020-10, and 2020-18, the Planning Committee met via audio and video conference on Monday, April 6, 2020. These Minutes were approved by a Roll Call vote at that meeting:

AYES: 9 (Wasik, Simpson, Altenberg, Barr, Clark, Hewitt, Martini, Pedersen, Vealitzek)

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

  
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 Committee Secretary