

**Lake County Forest Preserve District  
Planning Committee Minutes – March 4, 2019**

The Lake County Forest Preserves' Planning Committee met on Monday, March 4, 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 John Wasik called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

**Members Present:**

John Wasik, Chair  
Jennifer Clark  
Adam Didech  
Diane Hewitt (at 1:05pm)  
Judy Martini  
Linda Pedersen  
Jessica Vealitzek

**Absent:**

Dick Barr  
Julie Simpson

**Also Present:**

Alex Ty Kovach  
Mike Tully  
Randy Seebach  
Jim Anderson  
Ken Jones  
Steve Neaman  
Katherine Hamilton-Smith  
Mary Kann

**Also Present:**

John Nelson  
Rebekah Snyder  
Julie Gragnani  
Kimberly Mikus Croke  
Matt Norton, *Legal Counsel*  
Bob Pasquesi  
Don Wilson  
Howard Simpson

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

**3.0 Addenda to the Agenda** – Executive Director Kovach requested to move 10.0 Closed Session to after 7.0 Correspondence. There was a general consensus of the committee members.

**4.0 Public Comment** – Those present for public comment waited to speak until 7.0 Correspondence.

**5.0 Executive Director Report** – Executive Director Kovach distributed and summarized his report:

- Libertyville Business Park Association overview; annual assessment will be \$7,192;
- Winter update on snowplow events; Middlefork Bridge project award;
- Aerial photo of Ethel's Woods Trail and North Mill Creek project;
- Award for *Excellence is in our Nature* video;
- Published story on the District's use of ArcGIS at the Museum;
- Firefighter training course recently hosted by the District;
- Wright Woods woodland restoration project mitigation funds;
- Preservation Foundation meetings and events;
- Fort Sheridan cemetery maintenance; building removal at Almond Marsh; Brushwood roof.

**6.0 Approval of Minutes** – Motion by member Clark, second by member Didech to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2019 joint meeting; and open session and closed session minutes from February 4, 2019. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

**7.0 Correspondence**

**7.1 Letter from Bob Pasquesi** – Mr. Kovach noted that Mr. Pasquesi submitted a written request to speak regarding the berm at Sheridan Road, Fort Sheridan. Director Randy Seebach noted that staff has had conversations with Mr. Pasquesi over the past few years regarding the view of Lake Michigan from Sheridan Road through Fort Sheridan. Mr. Seebach noted the location on a map to familiarize the committee and noted that the area was a former runway and later a golf course. During restoration the District removed the turf grass and seeded the area with native grasses, which have grown taller than the mowed turf was.

Mr. Pasquesi spoke, noting that this location is the only place to see the lake from Wilmette to Great Lakes Naval Base. He requested that the grasses be trimmed enough to restore the view of Lake Michigan during summer.

Mr. Howard Simpson of Lake Forest spoke in concurrence with Mr. Pasquesi, noting that when Fort Sheridan was in operation, one could see the lake. He requested that District staff mow the berm to not obstruct the lake view and asked that this get on the schedule.

**10.0 Closed Session** – Motion by member Martini, second by member Didech to go into closed session for the purpose of reviewing approved closed session minutes for release or retention and deletion of verbatim recordings; for discussing the purchase or lease of real property; and for the setting of a price for sale or lease of property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. The Committee went into executive session at 1:21 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:19 p.m.

## **8.0 Old Business**

**8.1** Recommend approval of a Resolution Granting a Permanent Easement to Lake Villa Township for an Existing Storm Sewer at Duck Farm Forest Preserve – Director Seebach noted that the Committee gave authorization at the October 1, 2018 meeting to negotiate this permanent easement with Lake Villa Township. Motion by member Martini, second by member Hewitt to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

## **9.0 New Business** – The committee skipped to item 9.2:

**9.2** Recommend approval of a Resolution Approving the Dedication of 287.78 Acres of Captain Daniel Wright Woods Forest Preserve as an Illinois Nature Preserve – Director Jim Anderson gave an overview of the process for submitting areas for dedication to the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission. Using maps he summarized the location and showed the diverse and endangered habitat found within the area, and the restoration that the District has already undertaken. Motion by member Clark, second by member Vealitzek to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

**9.3** Recommend approval of Resolution awarding Contract for Ecological Assessment of District Lands 2019-2021 to Northern Illinois University, Institute for the Study of Environment, Sustainability and Energy, DeKalb, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$170,000.00 – Director Anderson summarized the project. Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Hewitt to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

**9.4** Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding Contracts to purchase Native Seed for Multiple Forest Preserves to: Agrecol, LLC, Evansville, Wisconsin, in the Contract Price of \$114,540.34; Shooting Star Native Seeds, Spring Grove, Minnesota, in the Contract Price of \$116,622.02; Genesis Nursery, Inc., Tampico, Illinois, in the Contract Price of \$144,935.59; and Prairie Moon Nursery, Winona, Minnesota, in the Contract Price of \$331,001.17 – Director Anderson summarized the recommendation and responded to questions. Motion by member Martini, second by member Clark to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

**9.5** Recommend approval of a Resolution Approving a Tax Sale Agreement with Openlands resulting from the 2018 Annual Lake County Tax Sale, allowing the District to purchase up to four Tax Sale Certificates from Openlands for a sum not to exceed \$75,596.41 – Director Seebach summarized the four

parcels and showed them on maps. Land Acquisition Manager Ken Jones responded to questions and briefly explained the tax sale certificate process. He also explained a prior tax sale in error regarding the parcel adjacent Lake Carina because of a lien against the property by the Village of Gurnee. The intent would be to file for a tax sale in error once the certificate is assigned to the District from Openlands. Motion by member Martini, second by member Clark to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

9.6 Recommend approval of a Resolution Accepting the Donation of two Parcels totaling approx. 1.3 acres from Lake Villa Township as an addition to Duck Farm Forest Preserve – Director Seebach summarized the two parcels and showed them on a map. The donation of the parcels is expected to be approved by the Township at its annual Town meeting in April. Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Martini to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

9.1 For Information Only – Update on Fort Sheridan/US Army Corps of Engineers Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration Program – Due to time constraints of some committee members, Chair Wasik asked that this item be deferred to the April 1 meeting.



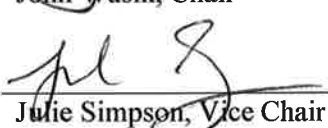

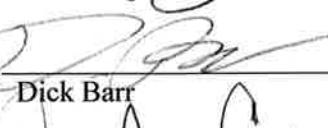
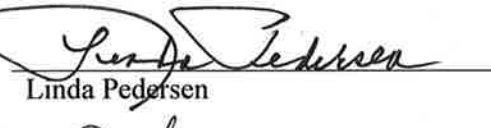

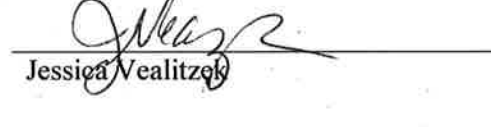

11.0 **Next meeting:** April 1, 2019.

12.0 **Adjourn** – With no further business, motion by member Martini, second by member Clark to adjourn. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Committee adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

**AYE   NAY**

**AYE   NAY**

 John Wasik, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Diane Hewitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Julie Simpson, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Judy Martini	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Dick Barr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Linda Pedersen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Jennifer Clark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Jessica Vealitzok	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Adam R. Didech	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			