Lake County Forest Preserve District
Strategic Planning Steering Committee
March 9, 2020

The Lake County Forest Preserves Strategic Planning Steering Committee met on Monday, March 9, 2020, at the District’s General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

Members Present:
President Angelo Kyle, Chair
John Wasik, Vice Chair
Jennifer Clark, Commissioner
Paul Frank, Commissioner
Ann Maine, Commissioner
Jessica Vealitzek, Commissioner
Alyssa Firkus
Betsy Hough
Lydia Scott
Pati Vitt

Also Present:
Dianne Russell, Institute for Conservation Leadership
Alex Ty Kovach
Jim Anderson
Laurel Diver
Nan Buckardt
Mary Kann
Allison Frederick
Julie Gragnani

Members Absent:
Lindsay Birt
Angela Larsen
John Rogner
Judith Stockdale

1.0 Call to Order – President Angelo Kyle, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance – President Kyle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 Approval of Minutes: December 18, 2019 – Motion by Member Clark, second by Member Maine to approve the Minutes of the December 18, 2019 meeting. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Minutes were circulated for signatures.

4.0 Public Comment – None

5.0 Strategic Planning – Chair Kyle turned the meeting over to Dianne Russell with the Institute for Conservation Leadership who made opening remarks followed by everyone introducing themselves. Executive Director Kovach gave an overview of the Committee’s planning process from the first meeting until now. He reviewed the themes from the small groups at the previous meeting that staff used to arrive at draft objectives with associated measurable tactics. Ms. Russell outlined today’s meeting objectives and instructions, then Mr. Kovach gave a presentation detailing the new draft strategic objectives:

- Steward Healthy Landscapes
- Ensure Financial Stability
- Strengthen Connections
- Sustain Organizational Excellence

Mr. Kovach noted during the presentation that the 100-Year Vision and the 25-year strategic directions would not be changing. Following the presentation, Mr. Kovach responded to questions and the committee members provided comments and suggestions.

The committee recessed for lunch at 12:20 p.m. and resumed at 12:55 p.m. There was another question and comment period followed by splitting into 4 groups. Each group took a draft strategic objective for a discussion. Ms. Russell instructed the groups to consider if the objective is clear; is it achievable; do the
elements fit together; suggested adjustments; and was anything missed in the objective. Small group
discussion started at 1:10 p.m. to 1:50 p.m. Each group then reported on their objective.

Member Clark left the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Kovach summarized the next steps of the process, noting that staff would use the committee’s
feedback to revise the draft, review it with the Directors on March 17, and continue to have conversations
with strategic partners, such as County Administration, large landowners, and Openlands. Mr. Kovach
would also meet individually with Commissioners and a Resolution would come to the full Board for
approval in April. A general discussion ensued and the Board members on the committee felt it would be
appropriate to either present the objectives at a Committee of the Whole first, take the objectives through
standing committees for approval, or have the Steering Committee meet again to formally approve the
objectives and submit them to the full Board. After discussion the Committee agreed to meet again in
April to formally recommend approval of the objectives to the full Board in May 2020.

Ms. Russell gathered feedback from the Committee on what their takeaways were on the process. Mr.
Kovach thanked everyone for their time and input to date.

6.0 Next Meeting – April, 2020 – date to be determined.

7.0 Adjourn – Chair Kyle declared the Committee adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Approved:

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Secretary’s Note: Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the May 29, 2020, Gubernatorial Disaster
Proclamation, and Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the Strategic Planning
Steering Committee met via audio and video conference on Monday, June 22, 2020. These Minutes were approved by
a Roll Call Vote at that meeting:

AYE: 8 (Kyle, Wasik, Clark, Frank, Maine, Firkus, Hough, Vitt)
NAY: 0
ABSENT: 6 (Vealitzek, Birt, Larsen, Rogner, Scott, Stockdale)

[Signature]
Committee Secretary