

**Lake County Forest Preserve District  
Operations Committee Meeting Minutes - Monday, April 5, 2021**

On Monday, April 5, 2021, pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the March 5, 2021, Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, the Governor’s Executive Orders No. 2021-5, and the Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the District’s Operations Committee met via audio and video conference and at the District’s General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

**1.0 Call to Order** - Chair Vealitzek called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**2.0 Roll Call** – Committee Secretary Shelton called the roll and six committee members responded: Jessica Vealitzek, Chair; Bill Durkin, Vice Chair, Jennifer Clark, Mary Ross Cunningham, Ann Maine, and Terry Wilke.

**Also Present:**

Angelo Kyle, *President*  
Carissa Casbon  
Linda Pedersen  
Julie Simpson  
Alex Ty Kovach  
Mike Tully

Jim Anderson  
Nan Buckardt  
Mary Kann  
John Nelson  
Rebekah Snyder  
Debbie Boness

Andrew Osborne  
Jim Siefken  
Kim Mikus  
Matt Norton, *Corporate Counsel*  
Maureen Shelton

**3.0 Pledge of Allegiance** – Member Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4.0 Addenda to the Agenda** – None

**5.0 Approval of Minutes** - Motion by member Cunningham, second by member Durkin to approve the Minutes of the March 1, 2021 Operations Committee meeting. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 6; NAYS: 0.

**6.0 Public Comment** – Chair Vealitzek asked if there was anyone attending who wished to provide public comment for items not on the agenda. There were no responses.

**7.0 Executive Director Comments** – Executive Director Kovach presented his report and commented on:

- Environmental Communications Specialist Brett Peto received 2021 Excellence in Interpretive Support Award from the National Association for Interpretation, Heartland Region;
- Dunn Museum: YouTube channel; opened for families during spring break; new lobby display;
- Maple syrup self-guided and virtual programs, 600+ students participated in virtual fieldtrips;
- District received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from GFOA for the annual audit ending December 31, 2019;
- The District has been assigned a Triple A bond rating from Moody’s;
- Board training session on Ethics Ordinances and Sexual Harassment on April 9;
- Spring burn season has begun;
- COVID-19 continues to impact District staffing.

**8.0 Correspondence** – None

**9.0 Unfinished Business** – None

**10.0 New Business**

- 10.1 Approve and Accept New Donations to the Bess Bower Dunn Museum of Lake County's Collections. – Motion by member Cunningham, second by member Maine to approve the recommendation. Nan Buckardt, Director of Education explained the Recommendation on documenting the COVID-19 event in history. Andrew Osborne, Superintendent of Educational Facilities explained that this rapid response collection represents the effects that COVID-19 had on the residents of Lake County. He gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the new donations. Mr. Osborne responded to questions. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 6; NAYS: 0.
- 10.2 Approve an amendment to the existing Farm License Agreement at Ray Lake Forest Preserve. Motion by member Clark second by member Cunningham to approve the recommendation. Mr. Tully summarized the recommendation. Jim Anderson, Director of Natural Resources responded to questions. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 6; NAYS: 0.
- 10.3 Policy direction on recommended revisions to District's Fee Guidelines Matrix for preparation of the next Annual Fee Ordinance. Mr. Tully explained the changes in the Matrix to the committee. Committee consensus was given.
- 11.0 Miscellaneous Business**  
Member Maine asked about the Zoom meetings being recorded acknowledgement at the beginning of the Forest Preserves meetings and wondered why this isn't being done at the County meetings. Attorney Norton responded that it is not legally required to give people notice that the meeting is being recorded.
- Member Clark asked if the District would consider making the dog parks smoke free. Chair Vealitzek will consider bringing this request to an upcoming Operations Committee for further discussion.
- 12.0 Closed Session** – None
- 13.0 Potential Action Following Closed Session** – None
- 14.0 Adjourn** – With no further business, Chair Vealitzek declared the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.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"/>
Jessica Vealitzek, Chair			Ann B. Maine		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Durkin, Vice Chair			Catherine Sbarra		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jennifer Clark			Terry Wilke		
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Mary Ross Cunningham					

**Operations Committee Secretary's Note:** Pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the April 2, 2021, Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, the Governor's Executive Orders No. 2021-6 and Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President, the Operations Committee met via audio and video conference on Monday, May 3, 2021. These Minutes were approved by a Roll Call vote at that meeting:

AYES: 6 (Clark, Cunningham, Durkin, Maine, Sbarra, Vealitzek)

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 (Wilke, joined meeting after the vote)

*Maureen E. Shelton*  
Committee Secretary