

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Planning Committee Minutes – May 1, 2023**

On Monday, May 1, 2023, the Planning Committee met at the Lake County Forest Preserve District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

1.0 Call to order – With a quorum in the room, Chair Paras Parekh called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2.0 Roll Call – Committee Secretary Gragnani called the roll and seven committee members responded: Chair Paras Parekh, Vice Chair Carissa Casbon, Marah Altenberg, Esiah Campos, Kevin Hunter, Linda Pedersen, and John Wasik.

Also Present:

Angelo Kyle, President	Mary Kann	Kim Mikus Croke
Adam Schlick	Rebekah Snyder	Julie Gragnani
Jennifer Vealitzek (via Zoom)	Steve Neaman	Kevin Kleinjan
Alex Kovach	Ron Davis	Becky Mathis
Matt Norton, <i>Corporate Counsel</i>	John Nelson	Debbie Boness
Mike Tully	Pati Vitt	Helena Keller
Randy Seebach	Nan Buckardt	Paula Ali
Ken Jones		

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Member Pedersen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Approve Minutes – Motion by member Casbon, second by member Altenberg to approve the minutes of April 3, 2023 – open and closed sessions. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

6.0 Public Comment – Lynn Goodell requested additional signage at the Lakewood winter sports area parking area regarding keeping dogs leashed.

7.0 Executive Director Comments – Executive Director Kovach reported on:

- Redesigned fishing guide and spring 2023 issue of *Horizons* magazine
- St. Francis Woods is the first northern Illinois forest to be dedicated as part of the Old-Growth Forest Network; public celebration on May 5;
- The Foundation is at 63.5% of its goal of increasing the donor database to 9,200 by 2025;
- \$2,275,000 grant transferred from the Foundation to the District for the new Ryerson Education Center;
- Two Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation grants received;
- Special Park Districts Forum will be hosted by the District June 19-23;
- Humidification System upgrade in the Museum's collection storage facility is complete;
- Summary of educators' recent connections with school districts;
- Planning Director Seebach introduced new staff: Dave Cook, Site Improvement Project Manager

8.0 Correspondence

8.1 Letter requesting bike access trail to Lakewood Forest Preserve – Director Kovach reviewed the letter containing a request for a bike access trail from Milton Road to the main trail system. He added that Phase 2 of the Lakewood master plan includes an access trail that will separate equestrian and bicycles. Lynn Goodell made public comment with concerns about a shared trail. Chair Parekh noted that Lakewood would be discussed later in the meeting during the CIP projects report.

9.0 Unfinished Business - None

10.0 New Business

10.1 2023 CIP Projects Status Report – In advance of the June joint committee meeting where the committees will review and recommend approval of the 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), Director Kovach explained the layout of the CIP spreadsheet and summarized the Ongoing Capital Improvement Projects, which are projects so large on an ongoing basis, that they are capitalized and receive priority funding. Planning & Land Preservation Director Randy Seebach continued with an overview of the major CIP projects that were started on the status report in the packet and responded to questions. Commissioner Vealitzek commented on the Lakewood trail access from Milton Road north, and asked the committee to consider moving the access trail section from Phase 2 unfunded to the funded list in order to access funds to apply for grants. Mr. Kovach noted that the unfunded project list totals at least \$50 million. A general discussion ensued.

Chair Parekh left the room at 2:15 p.m. and Vice Chair Casbon chaired the remainder of the meeting. Natural Resource Director Pati Vitt continued the presentation with a status report on the major Natural Resource Habitat Restoration projects on the CIP; and responded to questions. A general discussion ensued.

10.2 Recommend approval of a Resolution Awarding a Contract for Site Improvements Construction at Lakewood Forest Preserve to V3 Construction Group, Ltd., in the Contract Price of \$5,145,984.50 – Motion by member Altenberg, second by member Campos to approve the recommendation. Director Kovach introduced Planning Manager Kevin Kleinjan who gave an overview of the goals and objectives of the Lakewood Master Plan. He explained the bid components and summarized the bid results, which came in higher than expected. Staff developed a modified Phase 1 strategy that reduced the costs below the amount allocated in the CIP. Mr. Kovach added that the recreation facilities package will be rebid at a later date when additional funding can be secured. Staff felt the new strategy is a solid solution that is aligned with the original master plan goals and was confident that awarded grants have been protected. Mr. Kleinjan also explained the recycling efforts that will be implemented throughout the project. Mr. Kovach and Mr. Kleinjan responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the recommendation was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

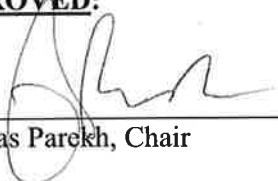


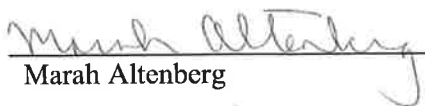

11.0 Miscellaneous Business – None

12.0 Closed Session – Motion by member Wasik, second by member Hunter to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the purchase or lease of real property. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 6, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 3:13 p.m. and returned to open session at 3:28 p.m.

13.0 Potential Action following Closed Session – None

14.0 Adjournment – Vice Chair Casbon adjourned the meeting at 3:28 p.m.

APPROVED:

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>		<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
 Paras Parekh, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 J. Kevin Hunter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carissa Casbon, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Linda Pedersen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Marah Altenberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 John Wasik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Esiah Campos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			