

**Lake County Forest Preserve District  
Planning Committee Minutes – May 3, 2021**

On Monday, May 5, 2021, pursuant to Section 7(e) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the April 2, 2021 Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, the Governor’s Executive Order No. 2021-6, and the Written Determination of the Lake County Forest Preserve District President attached to the Agenda, the Planning Committee met via Audio and Video conference and at the Lake County Forest Preserve District’s General Offices.

**1.0 Call to order** –Chair Terry Wilke called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

**2.0 Roll Call** – Committee Secretary Gagnani called the roll and seven committee members responded: Marah Altenberg, Vice Chair; Dick Barr, Carissa Casbon, Linda Pedersen, Gina Roberts, John Wasik, Chair Wilke. Diane Hewitt joined the meeting after the roll call. Absent: Judy Martini.

**Also Present:**

Angelo Kyle, President  
Alex Kovach  
Mike Tully  
Randy Seebach  
Jim Anderson  
Pati Vitt

**Also Present:**

Steve Neaman  
Mary Kann  
John Nelson  
Nan Buckardt  
Ken Jones  
Rebekah Snyder

**Also Present:**

Rebekah Snyder  
Julie Gagnani  
Debbie Boness  
Matt Norton, Corporate Counsel  
John Taylor Schaffhauser  
Matt Wallace  
Lynn Goodell

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

**4.0 Addenda to the Agenda** – None

**5.0 Approval of Minutes** – Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Altenberg to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2021 meeting. Roll Call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 7; NAYS: 0.

**6.0 Public Comment** (for items not on the agenda) – Lynn Goodell, representing Lake County Mounted Posse spoke regarding the Sedge Meadow and Half Day horse trailer parking lots; and additional signage at Lakewood regarding bikes and dogs.

**7.0 Executive Director Comments** – Executive Director Kovach reported:

- Closing on the Petty property will happen soon; grant application was not successful on the Shea Estate property, which releases some dollars into the land acquisition fund;
- Update on Preservation Foundation meetings, and new donations received;
- Update on new grants approved for Ray Lake and Prairie Wolf Forest Preserves;
- Picnic shelter reservations for 2021 have begun; maximum capacity is 100 people;
- Spring issue of Horizons magazine and launch of new responsive website;
- Update on first quarter attendance for programming;
- May 24 Joint Committee meeting at Adlai E. Stevenson Historic Home.

**8.0 Correspondence** - None

**9.0 Unfinished Business** - None

**10.0 New Business**

**10.1 For Information Only: Review and comment on preliminary site and building concept plans for education facility at Edward Ryerson Conservation Area** – Executive Director Kovach made opening remarks, noting that an anonymous donor funded the conceptual planning for a new education facility. Planning

Director Randy Seebach introduced Matt Wallace and John Taylor Schaffhauser of Lake Flato Architects and gave a presentation outlining the concept plans for a new facility to replace the log cabin classrooms. He reviewed the project goals and explained how the site location was selected. Architect Wallace continued in explaining the conceptual design in further detail, including ADA compliance and Net Zero Energy features. Following the presentation, staff and Architects responded to questions. Director Seebach the next steps would be to seek committee approval of the site plan and building design in late June, and Board approval in July.

10.2 Policy direction regarding request from Village of Volo to amend existing Easement Agreements with the Village to allow them to perform certain restoration, maintenance, operation, and improvement activities within that portion of the Millennium Trail located within land owned by the Village between Marl Flat and Singing Hills Forest Preserves – Mr. Kovach showed the location on a map and summarized the Village’s request. They want the ability to enhance the trail on their property, including additional maintenance and signage, and removal of invasive species. It was the consensus of the Committee to proceed with further conversations. During discussion of our legal fees, Attorney Norton suggested preparing a term sheet first, to help estimate the legal costs. Staff will bring the term sheet back to the committee.

Member Hewitt left the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

10.3 Policy direction regarding development of a license agreement with Resource Environmental Solutions, Inc. for potential mitigation banks at Ray Lake and Prairie Stream Forest Preserves – Natural Resource Director Jim Anderson noted that in August of 2020 the Committee directed staff to investigate the possibility of having mitigation banks for restoration of District land. Staff requested Requests for Proposal and 4 RFP’s were received. Restoration Ecology Manager Pati Vitt explained why Resource Environmental Solutions was selected; they have acquired Applied Ecological Services. Staff asked for authorization to move forward with concepts and to engage with the Army Corps of Engineers. Staff responded to questions and a general discussion ensued. The consensus of the committee was to proceed.


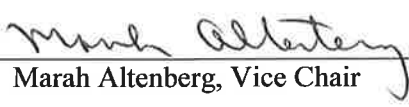
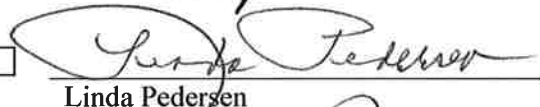
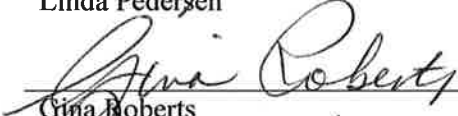

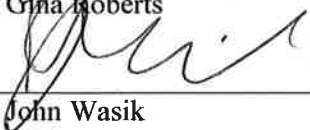
**11.0 Miscellaneous Business – None**

**12.0 Closed Session** – Motion by member Altenberg, second by member Wasik to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the purchase or lease of real property; and setting a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 2:27 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:38 p.m.

**13.0 Potential Action following Closed Session – None**

**14.0 Adjournment** – Chair Wilke noted that the next meeting is the May 24, 2021 joint committee meeting, and declared this meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>		<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Terry Wilke, Chair			Diane Hewitt		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marah Altenberg, Vice Chair			Linda Pedersen		
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dick Barr			Gina Roberts		
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carissa Casbon			John Wasik		