



DATE: March 5, 2026

TO: Sara Knizhnik, Chair
Operations Committee

FROM: Alyssa Firkus
Director of Education

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend Approval of a Resolution Approving Deaccession and Conveyance of Out-Of-Scope Items from the Bess Bower Dunn Museum of Lake County's Collections.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED: Organizational Sustainability

FINANCIAL DATA: There is no cash outlay for this project. All items will be disposed of in accordance with the Dunn Museum's Collection Policies and the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act, and the proceeds will be used for the acquisition or care and preservation of Dunn Museum collections. Proceeds will be applied to the collections miscellaneous revenue account (76412000-403200-76003).

BACKGROUND: The Bess Bower Dunn Museum of Lake County (Dunn Museum) cares for historic collections that preserve the material culture of Lake County, Illinois. From time to time, Dunn Museum staff conducts inventories of the Dunn Museum collections. This work includes conducting the necessary research to determine what, if any, items should be deaccessioned from the collections based on the criteria defined in Section V, Deaccession, of the Dunn Museum's Collection Policies (approved November 2017).

After careful analysis, the Dunn Museum's Collections Committee is recommending that the two items listed in Attachment A be deaccessioned from the collection and disposed of in accordance with the Dunn Museum's Collection Policies and the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act. These items have been determined either to have no known relationship to Lake County, to be in poor condition, or to have no future benefit to the Dunn Museum for preservation, scholarly research, or exhibition.

All funds received through the sale of materials from the disposition of deaccessioned objects will be used only for the acquisition, care, and preservation of collections as mandated by the professional standards set forth by the American Alliance of Museums to which the Dunn Museum, as an accredited museum, adheres.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Chief Operations Officer, Deputy Director of Finance, Exhibitions & Collections Manager, Manager of Board Operations and Corporate Counsel.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF LAKE)

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
REGULAR MARCH MEETING
MARCH 11, 2026**

MADAM PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Your **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** presents herewith “A Resolution Approving the Deaccession and Conveyance of Out-Of-Scope Items from the Bess Bower Dunn Museum of Lake County’s Collections” and requests its approval.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

Date: _____ Roll Call Vote: Ayes: _____ Nays: _____
 Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: _____

**LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DEACCESSION AND CONVEYANCE OF
OUT-OF-SCOPE ITEMS FROM THE
BESS BOWER DUNN MUSEUM OF LAKE COUNTY'S COLLECTIONS**

WHEREAS, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the "District") owns and operates the Bess Bower Dunn Museum of Lake County (the "Dunn Museum"); and

WHEREAS, the Dunn Museum's collections are used for preservation, scholarly research, and exhibition; and

WHEREAS, two items from the Dunn Museum's collection are identified in Exhibit A attached hereto (the "Items"); and

WHEREAS, the District manages the Items according to the Dunn Museum's Collection Policies (the "Policies"), which state that items in the Dunn Museum's collections shall consist of material that have significant historical relevance to Lake County, are in good physical condition, and do not duplicate other items in the collections; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Policies, the Dunn Museum's Collections Committee, has reviewed the Items and determined that the Items either (i) have no known relationship to Lake County, (ii) are in poor condition, or (iii) have no future benefit to the Dunn Museum for preservation, scholarly research, or exhibition, and the Collections Committee, and the District's Operations Committee have recommended that the District deaccession and sell or otherwise dispose of the Items; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 8(d) of the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act, 70 ILCS 805/8(d), whenever the District owns any personal property that is no longer necessary, useful to, or for the best interests of the District, then three-fifths of the members of the District's Board of Commissioners, by an ordinance or resolution, may authorize the conveyance or sale of that personal property in a manner that they may designate; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that the Items are surplus and are no longer necessary to, useful to, or for the best interest of the District; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest and serves the purposes of the District to deaccession and sell or otherwise dispose of the Items;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, Lake County, Illinois THAT:

Section 1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are incorporated as a part of this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Deaccession and Conveyance of Items. The District hereby deaccessions the Items. The Executive Director, or their designee, is hereby authorized to cause the Items to be auctioned “as is” or otherwise conveyed or disposed of in accordance with the Policies. All funds received through the disposition of the Items shall be used for the acquisition or care and preservation of the Dunn Museum’s collections.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2026

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2026

Jessica Vealitzek, President
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

Julie Gragnani, Secretary
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit No. _____

Exhibit A

Bess Bower Dunn Museum of Lake County, Deaccession List, March 2026

- Two leaded stained-glass windowpanes.