

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Land Preservation & Acquisition Committee
November 3, 2014 - Open Session Minutes**

The Lake County Forest Preserves Land Preservation & Acquisition Committee met on Monday, November 3, 2014. The meeting was held at the District's General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

1.0 Call to order – With a quorum of the Committee present, Chair Carol Calabresa called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Carol Calabresa, *Chair*
Linda Pedersen, *Vice*
Bonnie Thomson Carter
Steve Mandel
Diana O'Kelly
Tom Weber

Absent:

Terry Wilke

Also Present:

Ann Maine, President
Alex Ty Kovach
Ken Jones
Rebecca Hegner
Emy Brawley, *Openlands*
Mike Tully
Randy Seebach
Steve Neaman
Mary Kann

Rebekah Snyder
Jim Anderson
Julie Gragnani
Matt Norton, *Holland & Knight*
Karl Camillucci, *Holland & Knight*
Mick Zawislak, *Daily Herald*
Craig Taylor (10:50 am)
Steve Carlson (11:15 am)

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Carol Calabresa led the pledge of allegiance.

3.0 Approve Minutes – Motion by member Mandel, second by member Pedersen to approve the minutes from the October 6, 2014 meeting, open and closed sessions. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

4.0 Public Comment – None

5.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

6.0 Correspondence – None

7.0 Executive Director Comments – Executive Director Kovach distributed a written summary of his comments and reported on:

- District staff has been providing educational programs at the Waukegan Park District during the teachers strike, helping to replace previously scheduled programs cancelled due to the strike.
- Solar lighted trails at Old School and Lakewood have begun; trails are open until 9 pm through March 7.
- Culture Study values: Leadership, Communication, Collaboration, Respect, and Pride.
- Recent incident on Des Plaines River Trail still under investigation.
- Strategic Planning moving forward; consultant will coach staff on how to facilitate the next steps.

8.0 Bills and Requisitions – Chair Calabresa circulated the September 2014 Quarles & Brady invoice for signature approval.

9.0 New Business

9.1 Recommend Approval of Resolution approving Agreement for Vacation and Grant of Easements at Grassy Lake Forest Preserve – Executive Director Kovach illustrated the planned vehicular entrance and parking lot for Grassy Lake, noting that it would cross an existing easement and driveway used for access to the Schulz property. An agreement was reached with Schulz to vacate certain portions of their existing

easement and relocate a portion of their driveway. A general discussion ensued. Motion by member O’Kelly, second by member Pedersen to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was circulated for signatures and forwarded to the Finance and Administrative Committee.

9.2 Recommend adoption of Ordinance Vacating portion of Riviera Drive within Fourth Lake Forest Preserve – Mr. Kovach noted that this is a platted but unbuilt segment of Riviera Drive and is not part of a state or county highway. Motion by member Carter, second by member Weber to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was circulated for signatures and forwarded to the Finance and Administrative Committee.

9.3 Recommend approval of Resolution to purchase approximately 20-acre parcel of property in Fremont Township known as the Wagner property for approximately \$600,000.00 as an addition to Ray Lake Forest Preserve – Mr. Kovach noted that the District’s offer of \$30,000 per acre has been accepted by the owner and a general discussion ensued. Motion by member Mandel, second by member O’Kelly to approve the recommendation as presented. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was circulated for signatures and forwarded to the Finance and Administrative Committee.

9.4 Policy Direction regarding request from Illinois Department of Transportation to consider permanent and temporary easements on IL Route 22 and Old McHenry Road at Heron Creek and Egret Marsh Forest Preserves, to authorize signing of Letter of Intent with IDOT, and to authorize negotiations of an Intergovernmental Agreement – Planning Director Seebach summarized the Route 22 improvements planned at Egret Marsh and Heron Creek preserves. In order to complete the improvements, IDOT will need temporary easements for grading and tree mitigation planting, and permanent easements for a retaining wall and naturalized drainage swale. Mr. Seebach illustrated the easements and a general discussion ensued. Mr. Seebach also explained that the District may choose to sell fee-simple title to a portion of the property identified by IDOT as a permanent easement. Motion by member O’Kelly, second by member Carter to authorize permission to sign a Letter of Intent with IDOT and to negotiate an Intergovernmental Agreement. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

9.5 Policy Direction regarding request from Lake County Division of Transportation to consider dedication of right-of-way and placement of stormwater detention area at Nippersink Forest Preserve, and to authorize negotiation with LCDOT for an Intergovernmental Agreement – Mr. Seebach summarized LCDOT plans for improvements to Cedar Lake Road between Route 120 and Nippersink Road, widening to 5 lanes. LCDOT is requesting additional right-of-way on the west side of Cedar Lake Road for the road widening, and permission to install a naturalized stormwater detention and storage area in Nippersink Preserve. There is an opportunity to complete a portion of the District’s planned trail connection within the Cedar Lake Road right-of-way and restore a portion of the former RV sales site at no cost to the District in exchange for the dedicated land and easements. Staff asked for consensus from the committee to authorize continued discussions with LCDOT and to negotiate an intergovernmental agreement. A general discussion ensued and the consensus of the committee was to proceed.

10.0 Old Business

10.1 For Information Only - Upper Des Plaines River Feasibility Study Phase II – In follow-up to the May 5 committee meeting, Mr. Kovach noted that staff was directed to engage an appraiser familiar with the yellow book process the Army Corps of Engineers uses because the ACOE will not certify the appraisal until after the partnership agreement is signed. Staff got fee proposals for appraisals for Raven Glen, Sedge Meadow, Prairie Stream and Dutch Gap. The total proposal amount is \$44,500, which is not in the budget. In a recent meeting with the Army Corps, staff was told that the cost of the appraisal would be deducted from the District’s contribution to the project. The next step will be for staff to meet with the new Colonel. Staff will gather further details on this, and advise the Army Corps that the District would require a memo of understanding. A general discussion ensued.



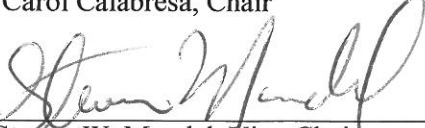
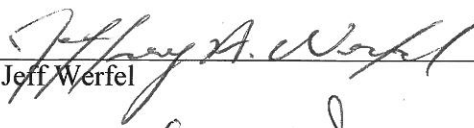
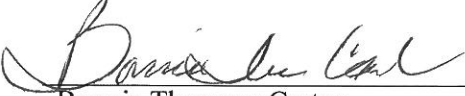
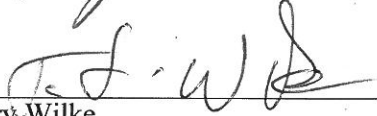
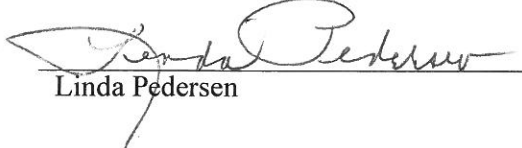
11.0 Executive Session – Motion by member Carter, second by member O’Kelly to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition matters. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 6, NAYS: 0. The committee went into executive session at 11:30 a.m. and returned to open session at 12:25 p.m.

12.0 Potential Final Action regarding Land Acquisition – None

13.0 Next scheduled meeting: To be announced

14.0 Adjourn – Chair Calabresa declared the meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Approved:

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>		<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
 Carol Calabresa, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Tom Weber	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Steven W. Mandel, Vice-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Jeff Werfel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Bonnie Thomson Carter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Terry Wilke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Linda Pedersen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			