

**Lake County Forest Preserve District
Land Preservation & Acquisition Committee
August 25, 2014 - Open Session Minutes**

The Lake County Forest Preserves Land Preservation & Acquisition Committee met on Monday, August 25, 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 10:45 a.m.

Members Present:

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

Also Present:

Ann Maine, President	Randy Seebach
Steve Carlson	Mary Kann
Mary Ross Cunningham	Mike Tully
Audrey Nixon	Jim Anderson
Nick Sauer	Emy Brawley, <i>Openlands</i>
Craig Taylor	Marie Shields
Alex Ty Kovach	Matt Norton, <i>Holland & Knight</i>
Ken Jones	Jim McConoughey, <i>Conserve Lake County</i>
Rebecca Janssens	Nathan Aaberg, <i>Liberty Prairie Foundation</i>
Julie Gragnani	

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

3.0 Approve Minutes – Motion by member Pedersen, second by member Weber to approve the minutes from the August 4, 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:

- Two educational presentations being made at noon between committee meetings;
- Finance Director Neaman is still out on medical leave but will likely return in a week;
- Forest Preserve Ranger who revived a baby at an event at Greenbelt Cultural Center on August 2;
- Still waiting for toxicology reports on recent apparent suicide at Lyons Woods;
- Mr. Kovach and Director Mike Tully attended the recent IACFPD meeting and reported on discussions regarding trail congestion; noted that many boards are going back to their core missions.
- The District received \$33,327 in Certificate of Error refunds for taxes paid;
- Construction: Fairfield & 176 is completed; Rollins Road underpass set to open mid-September; Libertyville Fire Department will conduct training at the old general offices building in September; Fort Sheridan repairs at bluff should be completed in September; Waukegan dog park survey is now on the website.
- YCC Annual Report will be distributed at the Finance Committee meeting later in the week.

8.0 Bills and Requisitions – Chair Calabresa circulated the June and July 2014 Quarles & Brady invoices for signature approval.

9.0 Old Business

9.1 Recommend adoption of Ordinance approving Amendment to Sustainable Farming License Agreement with Conserve Lake County (CLC) at the Casey Trail and Greenway – In follow-up to the committee's discussion at the June 30 meeting, Director Randy Seebach provided background, noting that since the license agreement was approved last year, CLC had a change in leadership and determined that restoring the open woods and installing planting beds are no longer a feasible use of their resources. The amendment would remove these two components from the agreement. Motion by member Carter, second by member Mandel to approve the recommendation as presented. Chair Calabresa stated for the record that she was recusing herself from discussing and voting on this item because she serves both on the Conserve Lake County Board and the Forest Preserve Board. CLC's director Jim McConoughey explained how the project got started through partnerships and summarized the property, providing a status of the certified organic farm project and related conservation activities. Mr. McConoughey responded to questions and comments from the committee. President Maine asked that CLC give consideration to how they price the educational program fees so they do not become prohibitive for families to attend.

After discussion, Vice Chair Pedersen acknowledged the motion and second to approve the recommendation as presented and asked for a voice vote in favor of the motion and second. Voice vote being had, the motion passed; there were no Nays; Chair Calabresa abstained. The recommendation was circulated for signatures and forwarded to the Finance and Administrative Committee.

10.0 New Business

10.1 Recommend approval of Resolution to purchase approximately 0.35-acre parcel of property in Waukegan Township known as the Hrvoj property for \$107,800.00 as an addition to Greenbelt Forest Preserve - Mr. Kovach gave a brief summary of the property. Emy Brawley added that a road vacation can be made that will nearly double the final number of acres acquired. Member O'Kelly noted that the background of the recommendation should be amended to add language regarding the dumping on this property that will be able to be better controlled once the District owns the property. Motion by member Carter, second by member O'Kelly to approve the recommendation as amended. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The recommendation was circulated for signatures and forwarded to the Finance Committee.

10.2 For Information Only – Regional Trail Planning – Director Randy Seebach gave a presentation visually illustrating the details and status of the following District trails:

- Des Plaines River Trail – 31.4 miles: 31.1 miles completed; the remaining 0.3 miles will be done next year;
- Millennium Trail – 35 miles: 26.75 miles completed; Mr. Seebach summarized the status of the remaining sections, which are all planned except for the Round Lake piece;
- Fort Hill Trail – 8.7 miles: 3.7 miles completed;
- Casey Trail – 3.3 miles: Completed
- Middlefork Trail and Greenway – 15.1 miles: 7.4 miles completed

Mr. Seebach noted that these 5 trails total 93.5 miles and will connect 26 forest preserves, 23 communities and 14 schools. Areas not connected will be identified and we will work through partnerships to connect missing links. He then illustrated and summarized other existing and proposed bike paths within the county including the LCDOT 2040 Bikeways Plan, Chain O'Lakes Bike Path, Antioch Area trail connections, Grand Illinois Trail, IDOT and LCDOT projects. A general discussion ensued. President Maine recommended that Public Affairs write up a document detailing the joint projects showing our various partnerships that Commissioners can share with their constituents.



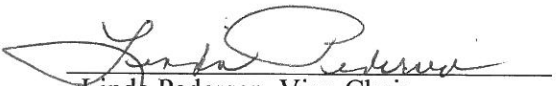
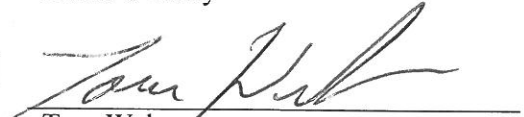

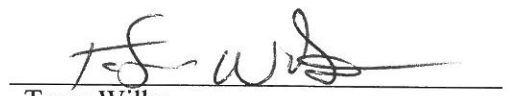
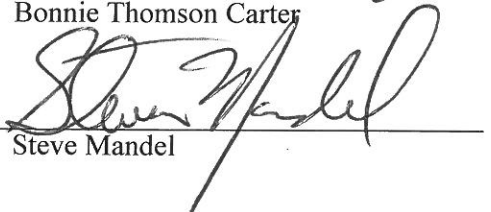
11.0 Executive Session – Motion by member Carter, second by member Wilke to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition matters. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by the following vote: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. The committee went into executive session at 11:29 a.m. and returned to open session at 12:18 p.m.

12.0 Potential Final Action regarding Land Acquisition – None

13.0 Next scheduled meeting: October 6, 2014

14.0 Adjourn – Chair Calabresa declared the meeting adjourned at 12:24 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"/>	 Diana O'Kelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Linda Pedersen, Vice-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Tom Weber	<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"/>
 Steve Mandel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			