

cc: Commissioners, Staff, Attorney, Newspapers, File

FOREST PRESERVE UTILIZATION COMMITTEE

April 27, 2006

The Forest Preserve Utilization Committee Meeting was held at 9:20 a.m., Thursday, April 27, 2006, in the Conference Room, Building G, 719 Batavia Avenue, Geneva, Illinois.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Carlson, President Hoscheit, Commissioners Barrett, Davoust, Griffin, Holmes, Wojnicki, and Wolfe.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Greviskes, Kissane, and VanOvermeiren.

Also Present: Executive Director Meyers, Director of Public Safety Eassa, Director of Community Affairs Fauske, Director of Finance Quinlan, Director of Natural Resources Ullberg, Manager of Planning and Development Culp (late), Supervisor of Human Resources Smith, Operations Supervisor McQuilkin, Consultant Young, Commissioners Allan, McConnaughay, Noverini, and Kunkel, Preservation Partners Safanda, Friends of Fabyan Larson, City of Elgin Helton, and Citizens of Kane County.

MINUTES: Chairman Carlson called for a motion to approve the minutes of March 30, 2006.
- Motion by Holmes, seconded by Wojnicki, to approve the minutes; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BID AND PROPOSALS.

Presentation of Bid for Removal of and Installation of Asphalt Roadway and Parking Areas at Tekakwitha Woods, Rutland and Binnie Forest Preserves. Quinlan addressed the Committee and stated that the bid was sent out, to 12 vendors with a good response. Staff checked references and would like to recommend the low qualified bidder, Parking Lot Services, Woodstock, Illinois. Discussion about grinding the asphalt took place.

-Motion by Wolfe, seconded by Holmes, to move to Executive Committee for approval; motion carried.

Proposal for Design of New District Shops. Quinlan addressed the Committee and stated that staff is asking permission to have Architect Michael Dixon provide architectural and engineering service for the District in the development of two maintenance facilities to be built on two sites of the county. Discussion occurred with the cost of \$12,000 and an additional fee of \$1,260 for modifications for the second maintenance facility to be developed using the same basic drawings.

-Motion by Wolfe, seconded by Griffin, to move to Executive Committee for approval; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Capital Budget Requests. Meyers addressed the Committee and stated that you have received the Capital Budget packets a month ago and I am here to answer any questions you may have or concerns regarding the Capital Budget. Commissioner Wolfe stated that he is afraid that we are forgetting about our mission and more about the organization since we have to have new vehicles for everyone. Chairman Carlson explained that we are growing, providing more services and we will need vehicles. Meyers stated that these vehicles are replacement vehicles. Carlson stated that he wants to call the attention of the Committee to the fact that this budget is a three-year plan with the first year being approved. Further discussion occurred.

-Motion by Wolfe, seconded by Wojnicki to move to Executive Committee for approval, motion carried.

Fabyan Garage Restoration Project. Meyers introduced Darlene Larson from Friends of Fabyan stating that she is here to make a request for additional funding for the Fabyan Garage. Mrs. Larson spoke about the garage and the history of the site and the fact that they have received grant monies, raised funds and matched funds for the work to be done and are asking the that the District contribute \$27,633 to their \$25,717 to create the total of \$53,350. Larson stated that we do not want to loose the grant funds that they have secured for the garage. Larson stated that Dennis Kintop from MIC offered to oversee the project for the garage and make sure it gets done in a timely manner. Wojnicki asked Quinlan if the District contributed the 27 thousand would we have money available for this project. Quinlan stated yes, funds would have to be moved around, but yes we would have money available. President Hoscheit stated why couldn't we use the River Boat Funds. Wolfe stated, " We are granting money to them now," he didn't recall that we were planning to do anything like that. Hoscheit stated that the project is half funded. Chairman Carlson addressed the Committee and stated that he was concerned that the Committee changing priorities after decisions have been made. Barrett stated that he is quit impressed that they got 50% of the money for the repairs/maintenance. Barrett stated that we should limit the amount and scope of work and money we are putting in to the project, but he would support it. President Hoscheit stated if we are going to do this we should allocate funds from the River Boat Fund for the project. Holmes expressed her opinion by stating that we should save this part of history, it is worth doing the work on. Wojnicki stated that she feels that the garage is worth restoring and the District putting a certain amount of money to add to Friends of Fabyan amount. Meyers stated that we could let Mrs. Larson coordinate the portion involving volunteers and the purchase of product and the District could coordinate the projects that have to be bid. Barrett stated that we should have this proposal in writing with the amount the District is contributing in writing, and he stated to Mrs. Larson, that we would need help with the maintenance of this building.

-Motion by Commissioner Wojnicki, seconded by Holmes to approve the \$27,633 in writing from the River Boat Fund to grant to the Forest Preserve District for the repair of the Fabyan Garage; motion passed with Commissioner Wolfe voting in the negative.

Eagles Property – City of Elgin Intergovernmental Agreement. Meyers relayed to the Committee that the use of the Eagles property by the City of Elgin was brought before us months ago. When the City showed us their original plan the District requested more passive use, it was changed and accepted by the Committee. The City of Elgin will maintain and police this property. Meyers distributed a written list of President Hoscheit's changes to the agreement. Meyers stated that Jeremy Helton from the City of Elgin is here to answer any questions you may have. President Hoscheit commented that he wanted to make sure that this plan did include the trail and additional property. Meyers stated that she spoke to Jeremy about the other property and the trail before the meeting.

-Motion by Commissioner Wolfe and seconded by Holmes, to accept the plan and President Hoscheit's changes; motion passed.

Raceway Woods Forest Preserve Special Event Request. Meyers stated that the Chicago Land Chapter of the Shelby Dodge Automobile Club (SDAC) would like to petition the District to host a charity Car Show and Swap Meet at Raceway Woods on June 11, 2006. Proceeds from the event will go to improve the property. Meyers relayed that the automobiles will be on the asphalt, they are requesting to be able to sell packaged food goods and would provide a DJ for live entertainment with reasonable volume not to affect surrounding neighbors. Meyers also relayed that they are in the process of creating a 501 3C fund for the monies collected. They will be charging a \$5.00 entrance fee. The District staff setting up etc. would be paid from these monies. Commissioner Wolfe asked where is this money going to be spent and who is going to receive it. President Hoscheit stated that would have to be decided by the three government bodies involved in it. Discussion occurred.

-Motion by President Hoscheit and seconded by Davoust to, approve the charity concept plan and work with the other agencies regarding the disbursement of monies; motion passed.

Campbell House. Meyers relayed that the Campbell House has been plagued with water leaks and we have an infestation of mold in the basement. Meyers distributed a staff report outlining the various options including remediation or demolition. Discussion continued regarding the uses of the building and the declining use and revenues. Discussion occurred with President Hoscheit stating that this has been going on for quite a while so do we put money in it or take it down, further discussion occurred. Monica stated that she spoke to Jeff Sedivy of the Cougars and asked if his agency had any use for the house and he stated no they had no interests in the house.

-Motion by Wolfe, seconded by Barrett to demo the Campbell House; motion carried.

Schweitzer Forest Preserve – Caretakers Residence Roof Repair. Meyers informed the Committee that the caretaker's residence in the Schweitzer Estate is having problems with the roof leaking. The cost to repair would be \$1,600. It is a flat roof with shingles on it. President Hoscheit addressed the Committee and stated that we should approve to maintain this residence if we have a tenant. Wojnicki stated to the group that we should discuss the contract with these people and not string them along for the future. Carlson stated that a facility inspection report and the contract should be brought back to us in 60 days.

Motion by Hoscheit, seconded by Barrett, to repair the roof; motion carried.

PROJECTS:

Route 56 Pedestrian Bridge. Ullberg reported that the progress has been great and they have been pouring cement. The project should be completed soon. He would like to suggest that we have a ribbon cutting for this project on June 3, at 10:00 a.m., it will be in conjunction with "National Trails Day."

South Batavia Dam Removal. Ullberg reported no current report at this time.

Aurora West – Lake Run Update. Ullberg reported no current report at this time.

Peck Farm/Mid County Trail Bridge. Ullberg reported that this project is 100% complete. The seed and asphalt are in place and he also suggests that we have a ribbon cutting for this project also. Carlson agreed with Ullberg.

Big Rock Fish Habitat. Ullberg reported that we are making small steps on the grant and we will be putting structures in place this summer for the habitat.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was duly adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Wolfe, and seconded by Commissioner Davoust, to May 25, 2006, at 9:15 a.m., and held at the office of the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, 719 Batavia Avenue, Building G., Geneva Illinois; motion carried.

Carole Ann Koutsky
Recording Secretary