

cc: Commissioners, Staff, Attorney, Newspapers, File

FOREST PRESERVE UTILIZATION COMMITTEE

July 28, 2005

The Forest Preserve Utilization Committee Meeting was held at 9:18 a.m., Thursday, July 28, 2005, in the Conference Room, Building G, 719 Batavia Avenue, Geneva, Illinois.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Greviskes, Griffin, Kissane, Van Overmeiren, and Wolfe.

Also Present: Executive Director Meyers, Director of Community Affairs Fauske, Director of Operations Holan, Director of Finance Quinlan, Director of Planning Ullberg, Consultant Young, Supervisor of Human Resources Smith, Commissioner Allan, Environmental Management Director Harbaugh, City of Geneva Untch, Christopher Burke Engineers Nulan, Fox Metro Representative Humm, and Citizens of Kane County.

MINUTES: Chairman Carlson called for a motion to approve the minutes of June 30, 2005.
- Motion by Holmes, seconded by Davoust, to approve the minutes; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEW BUISNESS.

Request from Fox Metro for an Easement at Hannaford Woods Forest Preserve. Executive Director Meyers introduced Jeff Humm Engineering Supervisor of Fox Metro Water Reclamation District. Jeff Humm made his presentation to the Committee regarding Waubonsee Community College eliminating their wastewater treatment plant, connecting to Fox Metro and to continue the line from the college north through the Hannaford Woods Forest Preserve to service new development. This is a request from Fox Metro for a 30' easement with a 24" sanitary sewer line. This area is also part of Sugar Grove's Long Range Plan. This easement would also allow for extension of sanitary sewer to an area planned by Sugar Grove and for future developments along Merrill Road. According to Mr. Humm the crossing of the Forest Preserve District property at this point would create a minimal impact to Waubonsee's property, discussion occurred. Executive Director Meyers stated that in the easement questionnaire it asks if there is an alternate route, there is an alternate route. Staff is not in favor of this plan as presented, and feels that Fox Metro take the proposed alternate route mentioned. Discussion occurred with Wojnicki stating if there is an alternate route then Fox Metro should take it, and so be it if the cost is greater. Jeff Humm stated that the reason why Fox Metro prefers to take the route he has discussed, and not the alternate, is for the fact we would not have to eliminate 200 trees on the Waubonsee site. Hoscheit asked questions of Humm about who would be benefiting from this easement sewer line. Hoscheit asked if Fox Metro would be willing to offer monies to the District for this easement. Humm said yes Fox Metro would be willing. Ullberg addressed the Committee and expressed concern about the easement area, since the area they want to put this line through has a number of endangered species growing in it. Carlson said this would give three public bodies the opportunity to work together, however, the District has to protect its interest; discussion occurred with the consensus being that staff will further study the request and walk the site at the next Utilization Tour on August 8th.

-Motion by Holmes, seconded by Wojnicki, to hold over for thirty days for staff to review and come back to this Committee with their findings. Commissioner Barrett abstained from this motion; motion passed.

Discussion and Approval of Change Order for Paving at Oakhurst Forest Preserve. Meyers referred that this change order was sent via e-mail to Committee, with no objections from Committee members, work was commenced, and completed.

-Motion by Barrett, seconded by Holmes, to approve this change order; motion carried.

City of Geneva – Prairie Green Update. Meyers introduced Dick Untch from the City of Geneva and Nan Nulan from Christopher Burke Engineers. Untch enthusiastically discussed the history of the Prairie Green Project (acquisitions and planning). He discussed the planned uses for the 600-acre site including public use, wildlife, wetlands, open space, and plant life preservation. Nulan went over the project with a brief overview of the property from access points to all of the design amenities that this property will offer. Nulan stated that the City is looking for the District to engage with them to help work on the development of this 600-acre site. Dick Untch discussed, the City of Geneva would like to work with the District to develop this site and finally have the Forest Preserve District take over ownership. Wojnicki asked if this allows us to apply for a grant for this property. It was stated that the City has applied for a grant but it would strengthen the City's cause if the District were a co-applicant. Hoscheit stated that this is a great plan and investment of open space that the City and Park District of Geneva have invested in. Hoscheit asked Ullberg's opinion of the site. Ullberg stated that he thought it had enormous opportunity and it is a great piece of land. Mr. Untch said he wanted to get the basic elements in place to be able to open to the public. Barrett asked about water retention storage, Untch reported that there are areas set aside for water retention. Harbaugh of Environmental Management addressed the Committee with Carlson acknowledging his presence to speak before the Committee. Harbaugh stated that he was supposed to be on the agenda and wanted to address the interest of the County for the Judicial Center and the RACO property. Harbaugh stated in the original agreement water retention was to be provided through the Forest Preserve District for retention to the Judicial Center and he was here to address the County's interest. Discussion occurred with Carlson asking Harbaugh what kind of action do you need? Harbaugh stated that he wanted support of the Committee to come back with an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Geneva and the County. Untch stated that we would meet. Barrett asked Harbaugh, if we have sufficient cost transfer plans. Harbaugh replied that we do. Meyers stated that we have had staff looking over the preliminary plans and have observed the water flow as it enters the site; staff is very pleased with the preliminary designs. Further discussion occurred with Carlson stating the consensus of the Committee is to move forward with reports to come back to the Committee in the near future.

PROJECTS:

Deer Valley Bridge. Ullberg reported that the installation of the 60-foot bridge would take place in the middle of October.

Route 56 Bridge. Ullberg reported that the first segment of four segments will be delivered tomorrow and be installed in the next ten days with entire project completion on August 20th, 2005.

South Batavia Dam. Ullberg reported that staff is working hard on the bid specs and so is the engineer to get the bid out on the street next week. Carlson told Ullberg to e-mail the spec information, when you have it to the Committee members to give them a heads up on the information; Ullberg said that would be done.

Windmill - Landscape. Holan reported to the Committee that we would be working on additional landscaping this fall on the windmill.

TOURS:

Commissioner Holmes had suggested earlier that the tour for August be Hannaford Woods Forest Preserve on August 8th, 2005. Carlson stated this was an excellent suggestion, and we will go there. Please be at the Administrative Office at 8:00 a.m. and we will be leaving at 8:30 a.m.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was duly adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Holmes, and seconded by Commissioner Davoust, to August 25, 2005, 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