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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Forest Preserve Operations Committee Minutes
April 23, 2019**

The DeKalb County Forest Preserve Operations Committee met on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 in the parking lot of 11770 Ellwood Greens Rd, Genoa, IL. Committee Member Misty Haji-Sheikh called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. Those Members present were Mrs. Misty Haji-Sheikh, Mr. Tim Hughes, Ms. Maureen Little, Mr. Chris Porterfield, and Mr. Craig Roman. Chairman Paul Stoddard and Vice-Chair Jeff Whelan were absent. A quorum was established with five Members present and two absent. *Vice-Chair Whelan arrived at 6:35 p.m.*

Others present included Terry Hannan and Bob Wood.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Porterfield, and it was carried unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Porterfield, seconded by Mr. Hughes and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2019 Meeting and the March 13, 2019 Special Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Porterfield moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Land Acquisition per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) at 6:15 p.m. Mr. Roman seconded the motion and it carried by a 5-0-2 roll call vote. Those voting yea were Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Little, Mr. Porterfield, and Mr. Roman. None were opposed and Mr. Whelan and Chairman Stoddard were absent.

The Committee entered back into their Open Meeting at 7:07 p.m.

MONTHLY REPORTS & ACTIVITIES

Mr. Hannan handed out and briefly reviewed the [March & April Monthly Forest Preserve Reports](#) with the Committee. He encouraged all the Members to look through the reports, especially the Spring 2019 Prescribed Fire Report which provides a great in-depth look at the benefits of prescribed burnings.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Terry Hannan thanked Misty Haji-Sheikh for her many years (2012-2019) as a Member of the Forest Preserve Committee. This would be Mrs. Haji-Sheikh's last Committee Meeting as she is resigning from the County Board as of May 16th due to a move. Mrs. Haji-Sheikh additionally

thanked Mr. Hannan and expressed her love for the Forest Preserve District. She also charged the Committee Members with continuing to help promote the Pedal Pal Program.

Mrs. Haji-Sheikh reminded the Members that Pedal Pal is a way for local businesses, park districts, forest preserves, municipalities and others in DeKalb County to promote cycling by placing a decal on their establishment which signifies that they are bicycle friendly. Each location that displays the decal agrees to allow passing cyclists to come in and get a drink of water, use the bathroom and/or use the phone in case of emergency. Businesses that display the Pedal Pal decal will be included on the www.pedalpal.org website as locations that are bicycle friendly.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, seconded by Mr. Hughes and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vice Chairman Jeff Whelan

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary