

*Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Forest Preserve Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.*

DeKalb County Government  
Sycamore, Illinois

**Forest Preserve Committee Minutes  
September 26, 2017**

The DeKalb County Forest Preserve Committee met on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., at the Potawatomi Woods Forest Preserve in Kirkland, Illinois. Chairman Brown called the meeting to order. Those Members present were Mr. Bagby, Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, Ms. Little, Mr. Porterfield, Mr. Roman, and Chairman Brown. Mr. Hughes was absent. A quorum was established with six Members present and one absent.

Mr. Al Roloff was additionally present.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**It was moved by Mr. Bagby, seconded by Mr. Roman, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the August 22, 2017 meeting.**

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mr. Brown suggested that the Tour of Potawatomi Woods Forest Preserve be moved at the end of the meeting after all of the Committee's business has been conducted.

**It was moved by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh, seconded by Ms. Little, and it was carried unanimously to approve the meeting agenda with the suggested change.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**MONTHLY REPORTS & ACTIVITIES**

Mr. Roloff and the Committee reviewed the monthly reports of the Forest Preserve District. Mr. Roloff shared that the Annual Sycamore High School Cross Country Invitational Meet was held at Afton Forest Preserve. Sycamore High School teams practice at Afton, DeKalb/Sycamore and Great Western Trails. Also, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Forest Preserve staff conducted a fish survey at Sannauk Forest Preserve.

The Committee reviewed what the new sign will look that is scheduled to be placed on Sycamore Park District property at the west end of the Great Western Trail. This will be a nice welcome on the East entrance to Sycamore along IL Route 64.

Mr. Roloff noted that his report on Natural Resource Management activities at the Preserves was also included in their packets as well as the shelter house and camping permit information.

**FY 2018 BUDGET**

Chairman Brown shared with the Committee that within Exhibit #1, 4b, of the FY 2018 Administrative Budget Recommendation it calls to redirect Forest Preserve District's \$75,000 of

the Host Fee from the Solid Waste Tipping Fees (for up to three years) to the County's General Fund to help the overall budget shortfalls. Chairman Brown added that these funds are currently being contributed to the Forest Preserve Natural Resource Management & Education Fund.

Chairman Brown referred to a list that Mr. Hannan had compiled that outlined the many cooperative efforts and projects that he and the County have worked on together throughout the years and how he would accept the loss of the \$75,000. It was additionally noted that the Forest Preserve's budget that Mr. Hannan would redirect funds from the District's Land Acquisition and Land Improvement / Management Fund for the 3 year period.

Mrs. Haji-Sheikh expressed that Mr. Hannan is very admirable for generously helping the County during their financial hardships but she also was concerned that somewhere down the line the loss of this revenue to the Forest Preserve District may be felt.

Mr. Bagby additionally questioned if shifting these funds have any impact on tax cap considerations. Mr. Roloff took note of the question in order to retrieve an answer from Mr. Bagby later on.

It was also noted proudly that the Forest Preserve District's Budget has not substantially changed in at least five years and the Committee commended Mr. Hannan and his staff for that.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mrs. Haji-Sheikh praised the Forest Preserve staff and Mr. Hannan for all that they do and how they work with such joy and dedication and for that reason, she loves being on this Committee so much.

Mr. Bagby noted that he was on the lookout for the upcoming fall colors and Mr. Roman shared he was eagerly awaiting the opening of the Sycamore Forest Preserve.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Mr. Porterfield moved to enter into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) – Land Acquisition. Mr. Roman seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously by roll call vote.**

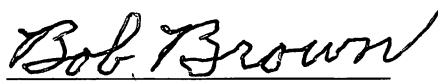
*The Committee reconvened in Open Session at 6:51 p.m.*

**It was moved by Mr. Porterfield, seconded by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh and it was approved unanimously by voice vote to direct Mr. Hannan to continue to investigate the possible land acquisition opportunity.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**It was moved by Ms. Little, seconded by Mrs. Haji-Sheikh and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.**

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman Bob Brown

  
Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary

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