

DeKalb County Government

Sycamore, Illinois

Forest Preserve District Committee Minutes

May 20, 2014

The Forest Preserve Committee met Tuesday May 20, 2014 at 6 p.m at Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve. In attendance were committee members: Ms. Fauci, Ms. DeFauw, Ms. Haji-Sheikh, Mr. Gudmunson, Mr. Brown, Mr. Cribben and Mr. Jones. Superintendent Hannan was also in attendance. Guests included Denny Sands, Christine Johnson and Dan Nolan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Fauci called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2014 meeting. Mr. Gudmunson moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Jones and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Fauci called for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Brown moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Jones and the motion passed unanimously.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Mr. Hannan noted that the new Chief Shabbona History sign was completed. He worked on this with Denny Sands, local historians and Potawatomi Tribe. The sign is a replacement for a previous sign, which was always a tourist attraction. Mr. Hannan had the text of the earlier sign updated somewhat. A picture of Chief Shabbona's wife and the typical Potawatomi home was added to the sign with the image of Chief Shabbona. The border of the sign is a Native American beadwork design. The sign will be dedicated on June 26th at 1 p.m. The current Potawatomi chief will be present.

Dan Nolan spoke about the Shabbona area trail project, which would connect Indian Creek High School, and Shabbona Elementary School, Shabbona lake State Park, Lions Park, residential , commercial areas and Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve. He is on the trail committee, and talked about how it is a diverse group made up of all the taxing bodies. Dan described the route of the path. The committee is looking at a grant with a match of \$100,000. Ms. Fauci asked if they had looked into Safe Routes to School. Dan said they had and it was not a good fit. There is some grant funding from Monsanto they are working on and other grants.

Ms. Haji-Sheikh spoke about the launch of Pedal Pal on May 16. She showed the decal and explained its use. The decal has a QR code that leads to the website. This is a county-wide initiative. Ms. Haji-Sheikh suggested a mini-launch in the south end of the County, and provided Dan Nolan with an application and some decals.

Mr. Hannan went through the monthly report and noted that the off-leash dog issue will be addressed at tomorrow's County Board meeting. Ms. Fauci noted that there used to be privileges allowed in the forest preserves which no longer exist due to abuse of the rules. Mr. Hannan said the Forest Preserve is not anti-dog, but wants people to follow the rules and keep their dogs on a leash. Ms. Fauci cited the danger that dogs off leash are to wildlife, other dogs and people.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Brown asked about any new land acquisitions. Ms. Fauci said this is would be a matter for executive session and not for tonight's meeting. There will not be a July meeting of the committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Haji-Sheikh moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jones. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Fauci, Chairperson, Forest Preserve Committee