

DeKalb County Forest Preserve District
Sycamore, Illinois

**Forest Preserve Operations Committee Meeting Minutes
November 30, 2023**

The Forest Preserve Operations Committee of the DeKalb County Board met in Sycamore, Illinois on Thursday, November 30, 2023. Chair Roy Plote called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Those Members present were Mary Cozad, Benjamin Haier, Maureen Little, Terri Mann-Lamb, and Stewart Ogilvie. A quorum was established with six Members present, one absent. *Meryl Domina arrived at 6:04pm.*

Others present included Forest Preserve Superintendent Terry Hannan and Recording Secretary Lisa Reser.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Ogilvie moved to approve the agenda as presented. Haier seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Cozad, seconded by Little and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2023 Forest Preserve Operations Committee Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing to obtain public comment and consider the proposed property tax levy and Fiscal Year 2024 Budget for the DeKalb County Forest Preserve District. Detailed information regarding the proposed property tax levy can be found in Ordinance FP-O2023-01.

Chair Plote opened the Public Hearing at 6:01pm.

There were no members from the public present, and hearing no comments, Chair Plote closed the Public Hearing at 6:02pm.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance FP-O2023-01 An Ordinance of the DeKalb County Forest Preserve District Providing for a Tax Levy 2023 for FY2024.

It was moved by Mann-Lamb, seconded by Ogilvie and it was approved unanimously by roll call vote to forward the Ordinance to the full Board of Commissioners recommending its approval.

Ordinance FP-O2023-02 An Ordinance of the DeKalb County Forest Preserve District Providing an Annual Appropriation.

It was moved by Mann-Lamb, seconded by Haier and it was approved unanimously by roll call vote to forward the Ordinance to the full Board of Commissioners recommending its approval.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution FP-R2023-015 A Resolution to Include the G2K Trail Schelkopf Easement Access and Tile Maintenance.

It was moved by Haier, seconded by Domina and it was approved unanimously by voice vote to forward the Resolution to the full Board of Commissioners recommending its approval.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Hannan shared with the Committee some letters of appreciation and thank you notes from people who frequent the DeKalb County Forest Preserves, the Great Western Trail, and amateur astronomy events. He also extended a thank you to the Forest Preserve Operations Committee for their work on the Committee.

Mr. Hannan reported that Josh Clark from the DeKalb County Forest Preserve and Peggy Doty from the University of Illinois Extension led hiking tours at the Adventure Works Fundraiser at Chief Shabbona Forest Preserve on November 18, 2023.

Mr. Hannan stated that a tentative closing date is set for December 14, 2023 with property owner Michael Schelkopf for the acquisition of land in Kingston Township that will extend the Genoa to Kingston Trail.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hannan announced a Public Star Party will be held on December 8, 2023 at Afton Forest Preserve, DeKalb, Illinois. The Northwest Suburban Astronomers (NSA), along with the DeKalb County Forest Preserve District, will be hosting a star party to view and learn about planets, stars and star clusters, galaxies, and nebulae with telescopes and binoculars. There is no cost to attend and no registration is required.

ADJOURNMENT

Mann-Lamb moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:18pm. Haier seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Reser, Recording Secretary