

**Lake County Forest Preserves
Finance Committee Minutes – January 9, 2025**

On Thursday, January 9, 2025, the Lake County Forest Preserve District’s Finance Committee met at the District’s General Offices in Libertyville, Illinois.

1.0 Call to Order – With a physical quorum present, Chair Gina Roberts called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2.0 Roll Call –Committee Secretary Gragnani called the roll and five committee members responded: Chair Gina Roberts, Vice Chair Ann Maine, Sandy Hart, Diane Hewitt, Angelo Kyle. Members Marah Altenberg and Linda Pedersen arrived at 1:02 p.m. following the roll call.

Also Present:

Jessica Vealitzek, President	Alex Eichman	Ron Davis
Alex Kovach, Executive Director	Alyssa Firkus	Julie Gragnani
Betsy Gates-Alford, Corporate Counsel	Dan Stearns	Sandy Meyers
John Nelson	Ken Jones	Laurel Diver
Mary Kann	Kevin Kleinjan	Debbie Boness
Rebekah Snyder	Pati Vitt	Steve Furnett
Steve Neaman		

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda – None

5.0 Approval of Minutes – Motion by member Hewitt, second by Vice Chair Maine to approve the minutes of November 7, 2024 open and closed sessions. Voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the minutes were circulated for signatures.

6.0 Public Comment for items not on agenda – None

7.0 Executive Director Comments – Executive Director Kovach his report and highlighted on:

- Winter building removal including use for training with local fire protection districts;
- Foundation donor recap, donation transfers to the District, Annual Fund grants, Giving Tuesday, Daughters of the American Revolution grant to Dunn Museum;
- 42nd Annual Profiles in Excellence at Greenbelt Cultural Center on February 2nd;
- Dunn Museum’s 10th annual Lake County History Symposium; new Museum hours for 2025;
- Meadowview School Nature Day, Winter Solstice Celebration; Winter issue of Horizons;
- Outgoing and new officers for the Foundation; Betsy Hough elected as President;
- The President authorized a \$150.00 fee waiver for 2025 to a donor to be able to visit a donated bench in memory of her daughter at a dog exercise area; the donor does not own a dog.

8.0 Unfinished Business - None

9.0 Correspondence – None

10.0 New Business

10.1 Approve job title additions, deletions and classifications - Motion by member Altenberg, second by member Hart to approve the recommendation. Executive Director Kovach noted that the changes are primarily a result of grant opportunities. Administration Director Mary Kann summarized the grant-related changes in the Public Safety, Natural Resource, and Education Departments. In the Land Preservation Department, a temporary Land Preservation Assistant position will be reclassified to a full-time Executive Assistant due to increased workload from the passing of the referendum. Vice Chair Maine asked if the Executive Assistant position might be able to be funded from land acquisition referendum funds and Finance Director Steve Neaman said they would check on that. Director Kann responded to questions and with a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

10.2 Recommend approval of a Resolution approving a three-year Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Construction and General Laborer's Union Local 152 – Motion by member Hewitt, second by member Kyle to approve the recommendation. Director Nelson summarized the terms of the agreement including the wage increases in each year and a 3% increase in salary grade minimums in all three years. With a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Resolution was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.3 Approve Change Order No. 1 to the Contract with The Corporate Moving Image, Inc. for filmmaking services, increasing the Contract Amount by \$7,500.00 - Motion by member Hart, second by member Altenberg to approve the change order. Director Kovach summarized the details of the change order, which is to be offset by revenue from the Preservation Foundation. Director Snyder responded to questions and during discussion, Vice Chair Maine requested information on how we are measuring progress on growing Horizons magazine distribution by 20%; Director Snyder will send this information to the committee. With a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously.

10.4 Recommend approval of an Ordinance amending the 2025 Budget by \$163,000.00 for expansion of exhibit space at the Bess Bower Dunn Museum - Motion by member Kyle, second by member Altenberg to approve the recommendation. Director Kovach gave a background, noting that Marvelocity Artist Alex Ross has proposed that the Dunn Museum host his new exhibition. It would require the buildout of additional space, which would also allow the Museum to host larger exhibits in the future. Finance Director Steve Neaman noted that funding will come from the Museum Relocation Fund and the Preservation Foundation. A grant has been applied for and if successful, Foundation funds would not be needed. He recommended a budget amendment for this project so that the costs can be tracked. Education Director Alyssa Firkus gave an overview of the proposed exhibit space and with a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously. The Ordinance was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

10.5 Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the exterior renovation of the Adlai E. Stevenson Historic Home to ALFA Chicago Inc. in the Contract Price of \$888,700.00 - Motion by member Hewitt, second by Vice Chair Maine to approve the recommendation. Director Kovach gave an overview of the recommendation and Facilities Director Dan Stearns summarized the details of the scope of the contract and the role of the State Historic Preservation Office during the project. Director Kovach added that this work addresses immediate needs and does not address any ADA issues. The next step would be the development of a master plan for the entire site. Staff responded to questions regarding the education programs at the site and a general discussion ensued regarding future use of the site. With a voice vote being had, the motion passed unanimously and the Ordinance was forwarded to the full Board for approval.

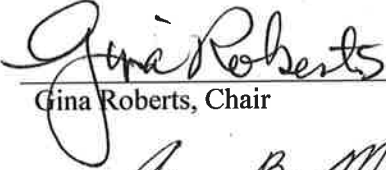



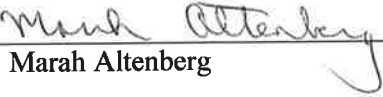

11.0 Miscellaneous Business – None

12.0 Closed Session – Motion by member Hart, second by member Knizhnik to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing probable or imminent litigation; and the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees. Roll call vote being had, the motion passed by a vote of: AYES: 7, NAYS: 0. The committee went into closed session at 1:50 p.m. and returned to open session at 2:10 p.m.

13.0 Potential Action Following Closed Session – None

14.0 Adjournment - Chair Roberts noted that the next meeting would be February 6, 2025 and adjourned the meeting at 2:12 p.m.

APPROVED:

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>		<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
 Gina Roberts, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Diane Hewitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Ann B. Maine, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Angelo D. Kyle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Marah Altenberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Linda Pedersen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ Sandy Hart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>