

**LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
DECENNIAL COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY
MINUTES – November 15, 2023**

On Wednesday, November 15, 2023, the Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency of the Lake County Forest Preserve District convened at 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois.

1.0 Call to order- President Angelo Kyle called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m. Electronic attendance via Zoom was confirmed for Commissioner Paul Frank with no objections.

2.0 Roll call – Board Secretary Gragnani called the roll and 16 committee members responded present: Campos, Casbon, Clark, Cunningham, Frank, Hart, Hough, Knizhnik, Kovach, Kyle, Leutwiler, Pedersen, Roberts, Schlick, Vealitzek, and Wasik. Absent: (6) Altenberg, Danforth, Hewitt, Hunter, Maine, and Parekh.

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance – President Kyle dispensed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 Addenda to the Agenda - None

5.0 Overview of District Structure and Organization – Rebekah Snyder, Director of Community Engagement and Partnerships, began a presentation with an overview of the purpose, responsibilities and requirements of the Committee. She reviewed the District’s mission, 100-year Vision for Lake County, and Road Map to 2025. She briefly described the Board and department organization, followed by a review of several Forest Preserve facts and statistics. She then summarized current and upcoming issues and priorities of the District, and responded to questions from the committee.

Director Snyder explained that the Committee members will be sent a link to access and review the District’s current policies, plans and reports as listed in staff’s memo. She asked that members review the documents prior to the Committee’s next meeting, and give thought to the questions posed in the state statute for developing any new or revised policies to improve efficiencies, or whether policies are already optimal.

Member Clark left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

6.0 Review and Discussion of Specific Policies and Practices: Green Fleet Policy, Environmental Sustainability Policy, Green Practices – Director Snyder explained that these current green policies and practices are areas that staff would like the committee to focus on to put the District on a course for a sustainability plan that may or may not replace these policies and practices. She noted that the Green Fleet Policy contains outdated language and needs to be revised; and the Environmental Sustainability policy seems broad and vague. Director Snyder asked for possible consensus either today or at the next meeting on one or measures that can be benchmarked, and create strategies to achieve the goal of the measure. Another consensus to reach is, shall the District hire an outside consultant to help create a sustainability plan. A lengthy brainstorming discussion ensued. Member Kovach recommended developing obtainable goals and recommended hiring a consultant.

During discussion, member Wasik left the meeting at 11:08. Member Casbon left the meeting at 11:10.

7.0 Discussion of Sustainability Goals – A general discussion ensued regarding sustainability goals. Member Leutwiler noted that the sustainable practices need to be reported out to the preserve visitors to set an example and educate. Member Kovach recommended reviewing the existing policies for efficiencies to file the required report by next November, but also develop a new sustainability plan over and above the required report. The committee reached consensus to bring in a consultant, eliminate the existing green policies and practices, and start over to develop a sustainability plan.


At 11:17 a.m. member Campos left the meeting. Attorney Norton confirmed that there was no longer a physical quorum. Member Frank could continue to observe the discussion on Zoom but not as a committee member.

8.0 Public Comment – Public comment was given by Douglas Ower representing Sierra Club, regarding an upcoming public meeting regarding the Waukegan Airport expansion project. Susan Zingle spoke requesting public participation in the Decennial Committee process. Director Snyder noted that in addition to public comment, the public is invited to participate in a survey to provide feedback on the meeting by providing an email address, as required by state statute.

9.0 Next Meeting – Staff will plan on scheduling the meeting to follow the District’s regular Board meeting either January 17 or February 14, 2024.

10.0 Adjournment – The remaining committee members dispersed at 11:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Julie Gragnani, Board Secretary

Date Approved: 5-15-2024

ROLL CALL

LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

DECENNIAL COMMITTEE - November 15, 2023

Meeting No. 1

10:25 am

ROLL CALL		COMMISSIONERS																
P	A		Aye	Nay	Aye	Nay	Aye	Nay	Aye	Nay	Aye	Nay	Aye	Nay	Aye	Nay		
	X	Altenberg, Marah																
✓		Campos, Esiah																
✓		Casbon, Carissa																
✓		Clark, Jennifer																
✓		Cunningham, Mary Ross																
	X	Danforth, Michael																
✓		Frank, Paul																
✓		Hart, Sandra																
	X	Hewitt, Diane																
✓		Hough, Elizabeth																
	X	Hunter, J. Kevin																
✓		Knizhnik, Sara Frederick																
✓		Kovach, Alex																
✓		Kyle, Angelo																
✓		Leutwiler, Nels																
	X	Maine, Ann																
	X	Parekh, Paras																
✓		Pedersen, Linda																
✓		Roberts, Gina																
✓		Schlick, Adam																
✓		Vealitzek, Jessica																
✓		Wasik, John																
16	6	TOTALS																
			Notes:															

FRANK - VIA ZOOM

CLARK OUT - 10:45 (15)