



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
www.LCFPD.org

Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: March 4, 2019

MEMO TO: John Wasik, Chair
Planning Committee

FROM: Alex Ty Kovach
Executive Director

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of a Resolution for the dedication of 287.78 acres of Captain Daniel Wright Woods Forest Preserve as an Illinois Nature Preserve.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED: Conservation; Leadership; Organizational Sustainability; Communication, Education and Outreach

FINANCIAL DATA: The financial impact for this dedication is nominal and consists of staff time for boundary marking, preparation of a land management plan and submission of annual reports, as required by the Illinois Nature Preserve Commission, and is included as part of the adopted FY2018/2019 Land Development Levy Fund Budget for Habitat Restoration (20104100-803200-60004). Long-term management will be funded by the Natural Resource Department annual operating budget.

BACKGROUND: Captain Daniel Wright Woods Forest Preserve is part of the Southern Des Plaines Ecological Complex and provides high quality examples of mesic oak woodlands and northern flatwoods native communities. These native communities provide habitat for 21 endangered/threatened/rare plant species and 7 wildlife species of conservation concern. Intensive restoration efforts have been invested restoring the northern flatwoods and mesic oak woodlands within the preserve. The portion of Captain Daniel Wright Woods Forest Preserve that would be dedicated is adjacent to other dedicated state nature preserves, including other portions of Captain Daniel Wright Woods that were previously dedicated (Elm Road Forest and Lloyd's Woods), Grainger Woods Forest Preserve, and privately owned nature preserves.

When the District dedicates property as an Illinois Nature Preserve, the District retains fee simple ownership of the property, but dedicates rights to the Illinois Nature Preserve Commission (INPC) in the nature of a negative easement, that give the INPC a certain level of control over the property. For example, dedication will require the District to (i) prepare and receive approval from the INPC of a nature preserve management plan and a master plan for any improvements, (ii) mark boundaries, (iii) assign District staff as a custodian, and (iv) submit annual reports for the dedicated portion of the preserve. Future activities and structures not identified in an approved master plan (that includes access roads, trail, permits for research and collecting, easements, rights-of-way, entrance and interpretive signage, and any other structure and improvements) will be prohibited, unless approved by the INPC.

Under applicable statutes, a “nature preserve” is “a natural area . . . to be maintained as nearly as possible in its natural condition and to be used in a manner and under limitations consistent with its continued preservation, without impairment, disturbance or artificial development, for the public purposes of present and future scientific research, education, esthetic enjoyment and providing habitat for plant and animal species and communities and other natural objects.” 525 ILCS 30/3.11.

INPC requires that the District’s Board of Commissioners approve a resolution dedicating the property as an Illinois Nature Preserve before the INPC can consider this dedication proposal at its May 2019 Commission meeting.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Chief Operations Officer, Director of Natural Resources, Director of Finance, Corporate Counsel.

**LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING DEDICATION OF 287.78 ACRES OF
CAPTAIN DANIEL WRIGHT WOODS FOREST PRESERVE
AS AN ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVE**

WHEREAS, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) is the owner of 287.78 acres of land (the “Subject Property”), located within property commonly known as the Captain Daniel Wright Woods Forest Preserve; and

WHEREAS, the Subject Property is generally depicted as the “Proposed Nature Preserve” on the map attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A and is located in or near the Village of Mettawa, Libertyville Township, Lake County, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to dedicate the Subject Property as an Illinois Nature Preserve as provided in the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, 525 ILCS 30/1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the District has the authority to dedicate areas as nature preserves, as provided in the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, and pursuant to Section 6a of the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act, 70 ILCS 805/6a; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Nature Preserve Commission has the authority to seek and approve the dedication of nature preserves pursuant to Section 6.02 of the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, 525 ILCS 30/6.02 and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources has the authority to acquire real property by dedication pursuant to Section 7.05 of the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, 525 ILCS 30/7.05 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the District to dedicate the Subject Property as an Illinois Nature Preserve by approving and executing an instrument of dedication in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit B (the “Dedication Instrument”);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, Lake County, Illinois THAT:

Section 1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are incorporated as a part of this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Authority to Dedicate. The President of the District is hereby authorized to execute the Dedication Instrument, in substantially the form attached hereto, dedicating the Subject Property as an Illinois Nature Preserve. The President is further authorized to execute, or cause the execution of, such other documents as are necessary, if any, to complete such dedication.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2019

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2019

Angelo D. Kyle, President
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

Julie Gragnani, Secretary
Lake County Forest Preserve District



Exhibit No. _____



Exhibit A



Legend

-  Forest Preserve Boundaries
-  Subject Parcel: 287.78 Acres

Lake County Forest Preserve District
 1899 W Winchester Rd
 Libertyville, Illinois 60048

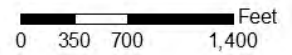
847-968-3351
www.lcfpd.org

Courtesy Copy Only.
 Property boundaries indicated are provided for general location purposes. Wetland and flood limits shown are approximate and should not be used to determine setbacks for structure or as a basis for purchasing property.

2015 Aerial Photo

Prepared using information from:
 Lake County Department of Information & Technology: GIS/Mapping Division
 18 North County Street
 Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4357
 847-377-2373

Map Prepared 11 February 2019



**DEDICATION OF THE [PRESERVE]
AS AN ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVE**

KNOW ALL PEOPLE BY THESE PRESENTS, that Lake County Forest Preserve District, being the owner thereof, does hereby dedicate the following described real property as nature preserve:

Refer to Exhibit A

The property hereinabove described is dedicated for the purposes, and shall be held, maintained, and used, as provided for Nature Preserves in the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act (525 ILCS 30). Said property is further dedicated for the purposes, and shall be held, maintained, and used, as provided for Nature Preserves in any amendment to said Act enacted hereafter, but no such amendment shall alter the exclusive commitment of said property to the preservation of natural conditions for the purposes specified in said Act as of the date of this dedication.

Said nature preserve may be used for conservation or recreation purposes as may be jointly approved by the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission and the owner; and as approved in the Proposal for Dedication for [Preserve]. Jointly approved uses shall include, but not be limited to, bicycle riding on designated trails and walking leashed dogs on designated trails.

The Lake County Forest Preserve District, its successors or assigns, shall have custody and management of the Nature Preserve herein dedicated, subject to the Rules for Management of Illinois Nature Preserves, as amended, and any Commission approved master plan.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Lake County Forest Preserve District
By: Angelo D. Kyle, President

EXHIBIT B

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF LAKE)

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for the County and State aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that Angelo D. Kyle, acting in his capacity as President of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Instrument, appeared before me on this day in person and acknowledged that he signed, sealed and delivered the said Instrument as his free and voluntary act, for the uses and purposes herein set forth.

GIVEN under my hand and notarial seal this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Notary Public

My Commission expires:

APPROVED:

Chair, Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

Date

Attest:

Secretary, Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

Date

APPROVED:

Director, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Date

APPROVED:

Governor, State of Illinois

Date

EXHIBIT A

NATURE PRESERVE

[Preserve]



Exhibit A



Legend

- Forest Preserve Boundaries
- Subject Parcel: 287.78 Acres

Lake County Forest Preserve District
1859 W Winchester Rd
Libertyville, Illinois 60048
847-968-3351
www.lcfpd.org

Courtesy Copy Only.
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