



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: September 23, 2019
MEMO TO: John Wasik, Chair
Planning Committee
FROM: Randall L. Seebach
Director of Planning and Land Preservation

Agenda Item# 9.7

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of a Resolution to purchase an approximately 99-acre property in Fremont Township, known as the Dearlove property, for \$958,000 as an addition to Ray Lake Forest Preserve.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED: Conservation

FINANCIAL DATA: The purchase price of the Dearlove property is \$958,000.00, of which \$362,000 will be funded by an Illinois Department of Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant (#17-01000). The remaining \$596,000 will be funded from the 2008 Referendum Bonds, which are included in the adopted FY 2018/19 Budget (Series 2015A) account number 31314100-801000.

BACKGROUND: At the direction of the Planning Committee, District staff has reviewed the property to determine its suitability for acquisition for District purposes. In staff's opinion, the acquisition, protection and management of this property will meet the District's adopted land acquisition goals of protecting wildlife habitat, preserving wetlands, prairies and forests, providing scenic vistas, adding to existing preserves, protecting existing District holdings, and serving as a visual, topographic and ecologic extension of adjoining District properties.

The property is located on Gilmer Road, approximately one mile north of Route 176 and 1.5 miles south of Fairfield Road in unincorporated Fremont Township.

A contract to purchase the property has been negotiated by District staff and signed by the owner. Pursuant to the contract, the District will pay \$958,000 for the property. At the time the contract was executed, a land survey was not available to determine the exact acreage of the parcel. The property is vacant.

REVIEWED BY OTHERS: Executive Director, Chief Operations Officer, Corporate Counsel.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF LAKE)

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
REGULAR OCTOBER MEETING
OCTOBER 8, 2019**

MISTER PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Your **PLANNING COMMITTEE** presents herewith “A Resolution to Purchase an Approximately 99-acre Parcel as an Addition to Ray Lake Forest Preserve (Dearlove Property),” and requests its approval.

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Date: 9-23-2019 Roll Call Vote: Ayes: _____ Nays: _____
 Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: 0

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

**A RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE AN APPROXIMATELY 99-ACRE PARCEL
AS AN ADDITION TO RAY LAKE FOREST PRESERVE (DEARLOVE PROPERTY)**

WHEREAS, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the "District") owns a certain parcel of land known as Ray Lake Forest Preserve ("Ray Lake"); and

WHEREAS, the Planning Committee (the "Committee") of the District has reviewed certain land in Fremont Township and within the corporate limits of the District that is suitable for District purposes, which land includes approximately 99 acres, is known as the Dearlove Property, is privately-owned, and is depicted in Exhibit A attached hereto (the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Property will expand upon, and enhance, the holdings of Ray Lake, will provide expanded forest preserve opportunities in an ecologically important portion of Lake County, and is a visual, topographic and ecologic extension of District properties; and

WHEREAS, the District's Department of Planning and Land Preservation has negotiated a purchase and sale agreement with the owners of the Property pursuant to which the District would purchase the Property from the owners (the "Purchase Agreement"), and the owners of the Property have executed the Purchase Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has recommended that the District approve the Purchase Agreement and purchase the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners finds that (i) the Property is suitable for District purposes, (ii) acquisition of the Property would expand upon and enhance the holdings of Ray Lake, protect wildlife habitat, protect against flooding, preserve wetlands, provide scenic vistas, and serve as a visual, topographic and ecologic extension of adjoining District properties, and (iii) it is in the best interests of the District to approve the Purchase Agreement and acquire the Property;

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 part of this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2: Approval of Purchase Agreement. The Purchase Agreement is hereby approved. The District shall purchase the Property from the owner of the Property, upon the terms and conditions of the Purchase Agreement and such other terms and conditions as shall be approved by the District, for \$958,000. The President, Secretary, and Executive Director of the District (and the Executive Director's designees) are hereby authorized and directed (i) to execute and attest to, on behalf of the District, the Purchase Agreement and all other documents that are necessary to complete the acquisition of the Property provided that any documents have first been approved by the District's Corporate Counsel, and (ii) to take such other actions as may be necessary to complete the acquisition of the Property.

Section 3: Authority to Pay Owner. The Treasurer of the District is hereby authorized to pay for the Property, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Purchase Agreement.

Section 4: 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

Lake County Forest Preserve District
Land Preservation and Special Projects
1899 W Winchester Rd
Libertyville, Illinois 60048
847-968-3351

Legend

-  Forest Preserve Boundary
-  Subject Parcel



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.

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

0 200 400 800 Feet

2017 Aerial Photo

Map Prepared 26 August 2019

