



Preservation Foundation  
*of the Lake County Forest Preserves*

**DATE:** May 11, 2022

**MEMO TO:** Nels Leutwiler, Chair  
Preservation Foundation Board

**FROM:** Rebekah Snyder  
Preservation Foundation Executive Director

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend approval of the 2021 Preservation Foundation Audit.

**FINANCIAL DATA:** There is no financial data.

**BACKGROUND:** Regardless of annual revenue received by the Preservation Foundation, an annual audit is required as a component of the Forest Preserves audit. Funding for audit services as well as tax preparation services are provided by the Forest Preserves Audit Fund.

At the quarterly meeting of the Preservation Foundation Finance Committee on May 4, Gary Bausch of Baker Tilly presented the draft 2021 audit. Bausch delivered the required communications and summarized the audit, which resulted in no findings. Committee members had the opportunity to ask questions and subsequently recommended the approval of the audit by the Board of Directors.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** Director of Finance

**PRESERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  Roll Call Vote: Ayes: \_\_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_\_\_

Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: \_\_\_\_\_

# Reporting and insights from 2021 audit:

## Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves

December 31, 2021

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# Executive summary

## Date of communication

To the Board of Directors  
Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves  
1899 W. Winchester Road  
Libertyville, Illinois 60048

We have completed our audit of the financial statements of Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves (the Foundation) for the year ended December 31, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated **INSERT REPORT DATE**. This letter presents communications required by our professional standards.

Your audit should provide you with confidence in your financial statements. The audit was performed based on information obtained from meetings with management, data from your systems, knowledge of your Foundation's operating environment and our risk assessment procedures. We strive to provide you clear, concise communication throughout the audit process and of the final results of our audit.

Additionally, we have included information on key risk areas the Foundation should be aware of in your strategic planning. We are available to discuss these risks as they relate to your Foundation's financial stability and future planning.

If you have questions at any point, please connect with us:

- Jason Coyle, Partner: [jason.coyle@bakertilly.com](mailto:jason.coyle@bakertilly.com) or +1 (630) 645 6205
- Gary Bausch, Senior Manager: [gary.bausch@bakertilly.com](mailto:gary.bausch@bakertilly.com) or +1 (630) 645 6245

Sincerely,

Baker Tilly US, LLP

**[Insert PIC signature graphic]**

Jason Coyle, CPA

**[Insert RM signature graphic]**

Gary Bausch, CPA

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# Responsibilities

## Our responsibilities

As your independent auditor, our responsibilities include:

- Planning and performing the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance.
- Assessing the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. Included in that assessment is a consideration of the Foundation's internal control over financial reporting.
- Performing appropriate procedures based upon our risk assessment.
- Evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management.
- Forming and expressing an opinion based on our audit about whether the financial statements prepared by management, with the oversight of the Board of Directors:
  - Are free from material misstatement
  - Present fairly, in all material respects, and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America
- Our audit does not relieve management or the Board of Directors of their responsibilities.

We are also required to communicate significant matters related to our audit that are relevant to the responsibilities of the Board of Directors, including:

- Internal control matters
- Qualitative aspects of the Foundation's accounting practice including policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures
- Significant unusual transactions
- Significant difficulties encountered
- Disagreements with management
- Circumstances that affect the form and content of the auditors' report
- Audit consultations outside the engagement team
- Corrected and uncorrected misstatements
- Other audit findings or issues

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# Audit status

## Significant changes to the audit plan

There were no significant changes made to either our planned audit strategy or to the significant risks and other areas of emphasis identified during the performance of our risk assessment procedures.

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# Audit approach and results

## Planned scope and timing

### Audit focus

Based on our understanding of the Foundation and environment in which you operate, we focused our audit on the following key areas:

- Key transaction cycles
- Areas with significant estimates
- Review, recompute and substantiate financial statement amounts and disclosures
- Review application and disclosures for new accounting standards adopted
- Existence, valuation and proper classification of contributions and pledges receivable
- Fair value measurements and disclosures
- Payroll and other expenses
- Net assets and compliance with donor restrictions (including endowments)

Our areas of audit focus were informed by, among other things, our assessment of materiality. Materiality in the context of our audit was determined based on specific qualitative and quantitative factors combined with our expectations about the Foundation's current year results.

## Key areas of focus and significant issues

### Significant risks of material misstatement

A significant risk is an identified and assessed risk of material misstatement that, in the auditor's professional judgment, requires special audit consideration. Within our audit, we focused on the following areas below.

Significant risk areas	Testing approach	Conclusion
Management override of controls	Tested manual journal entries recorded by the Foundation	Procedures identified provided sufficient evidence for our audit opinion
Improper revenue recognition due to fraud	Tested contributions revenue and in-kind contributions	Procedures identified provided sufficient evidence for our audit opinion

## Internal control matters

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Foundation's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.

A material weakness is a deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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# Required communications

## Qualitative aspect of accounting practices

- Accounting policies: Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we have advised management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Foundation are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing accounting policies was not changed during 2021. We noted no transactions entered into by the Foundation during the year for which accounting policies are controversial or for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus or diversity in practice.
- Accounting estimates: Accounting estimates, including fair value estimates, are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements, the degree of subjectivity involved in their development and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The following estimates are of most significance to the financial statements:

<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Management's process to determine</b>	<b>Baker Tilly's conclusions regarding reasonableness</b>
Value of land held for sale	Valuation determined through independent evaluation of the current market value	Estimate appears reasonable
Allocation of expenses	Allocation is based on the basis of occupied space or estimated time and effort	Estimate appears reasonable

There have been no significant changes made by management to either the processes used to develop the particularly sensitive accounting estimates, or to the significant assumptions used to develop the estimates, noted above.

- Financial statement disclosures: The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent and clear.



## **Significant unusual transactions**

There have been no significant transactions that are outside the normal course of business for the Foundation or that otherwise appear to be unusual due to their timing, size or nature.

## **Significant difficulties encountered during the audit**

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management and completing our audit.

## **Disagreements with management**

Professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

## **Audit report**

There have been no departures from the auditors' standard report.

## **Audit consultations outside the engagement team**

We encountered no difficult or contentious matters for which we consulted outside of the engagement team.

## **Uncorrected misstatements and corrected misstatements**

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. There were no misstatements identified.

## **Other audit findings or issues**

We encountered no other audit findings or issues that require communication at this time.

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Foundation's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

## **Management's consultations with other accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing or accounting matters.

## **Written communications between management and Baker Tilly**

The Appendix includes copies of other material written communications, including a copy of the management representation letter.

## **Fraud**

We did not identify any known or suspected fraud during our audit.

## **Going concern**

Pursuant to professional standards, we are required to communicate to you, when applicable, certain matters relating to our evaluation of the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time but no less than 12 months from the date the financial statements are issued or available to be issued, including the effects on the financial statements and the adequacy of the related disclosures, and the effects on the auditor's report. No such matters or conditions have come to our attention during our engagement.

## **Independence**

We are not aware of any relationships between Baker Tilly and the Foundation that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

## **Related parties**

We did not have any significant issues arise during the audit in connection with the Foundation's related parties.

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## Nonattest services

The following nonattest services were provided by Baker Tilly:

- Preparation of the financial statements
- Proposal of journal entries, if any
- Preparation of the tax returns

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# Audit committee resources

Visit our resource page for regulatory updates, trending challenges and opportunities in your industry and other timely updates.

Visit the not-for-profit resource page at <https://www.bakertilly.com/insights/audit-committee-resource-page>.

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# Management representation letter

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Baker Tilly US, LLP  
1301 W. 22nd Street, Suite 400  
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523

Dear Baker Tilly US, LLP:

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audits of the financial statements of Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves (the Foundation), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of , the following representations made to you during your audit.

#### **Financial Statements**

- 1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated December 28, 2021 including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 2) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- 3) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 4) Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.

- 5) Related party relationships and transactions, if any, have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 6) All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which U.S. GAAP require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
- 7) The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments, if any, have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 8) Significant estimates and material concentrations have been appropriately disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 9) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Foundation is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

**Information Provided**

- 10) We have provided you with:
  - > Access to all information, of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters;
  - > Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit;
  - > Unrestricted access to persons within the Foundation from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
  - > Communications from regulatory agencies, if any, concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices
  - > All minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and the following committee, or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
    - > Finance Committee
- 11) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 12) We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 13) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the Foundation and involves:
  - > Management;

- > Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
  - > Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 14) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the Foundation's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, grantors, regulators or others.
  - 15) We are responsible for compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us.
  - 16) We have no knowledge of any instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
  - 17) We have no knowledge of any known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessment whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements and we have not consulted legal counsel concerning litigation, claims, or assessments.
  - 18) We have disclosed to you the identity of all the Foundation's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware that have not been disclosed to you.

**General**

- 19) We have not completed the process of evaluating the impact of adopting the guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Update No. 2020-07, as discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements. The Foundation is therefore unable to disclose the impact that adopting the guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Update No. 2020-07, will have on its financial position and the results of operations when such statement is adopted.
- 20) We have complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance.
- 21) We have no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or net asset balances.
- 22) There are no estimates that may be subject to a material change in the near term that have not been properly disclosed in the financial statements. We understand that near term means the period within one year of the date of the financial statements.
- 23) We represent to you the following for the Foundation's fair value measurements and disclosures:
  - a) The underlying assumptions are reasonable and they appropriately reflect management's intent and ability to carry out its stated courses of action.
  - b) The measurement methods and related assumptions used in determining fair value are appropriate in the circumstances and have been consistently applied.



- c) The disclosures related to fair values are complete, adequate, and in conformity with U.S. GAAP.
  - d) There are no subsequent events that require adjustments to the fair value measurements and disclosures included in the financial statements.
- 24) We have no relationships with variable interest entities.

**Liabilities**

- 25) The Foundation is an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Any activities of which we are aware that would jeopardize the Foundation's tax-exempt status, and all activities subject to tax on unrelated business income or excise or other tax, have been disclosed to you. All required filings with tax authorities are up-to-date.

**Other**

- 26) As part of your audit, you assisted with the preparation of the financial statements. We acknowledge our responsibility as it relates to those non-audit services, including that we assume all management responsibilities; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably within senior management, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services performed; and accept responsibility for the results of the services. We have reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for those financial statements.
- 27) We have made all management decisions and performed all management functions in relation to the nonattest services provided by Baker Tilly US, LLP, as identified in the engagement letter or an addendum to the engagement letter. We have designated Rebekah Snyder, an employee with suitable skill, knowledge, and/or experience to oversee the services received. Furthermore, we have established and maintained internal controls, including monitoring activities related to the nonattest services provided by Baker Tilly US, LLP, and we have evaluated and accept responsibility for the adequacy and results of the nonattest services received.

Baker Tilly US, LLP

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**PRESERVATION FOUNDATION OF THE LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES**

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Nels Leutwiler  
Board President

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Rebekah Snyder  
Executive Director

Date:

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**Preservation Foundation of the  
Lake County Forest Preserves**

Financial Statements

December 31, 2021 and 2020

# Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves

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December 31, 2021 and 2020

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## Independent Auditors' Report

To the Board of Directors of  
Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### *Opinion*

We have audited the financial statements of Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves (the Foundation), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Foundation as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### *Basis for Opinion*

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Foundation and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### *Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

***Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Oak Brook, Illinois  
**Date of Report**

**Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves**

Statements of Financial Position  
December 31, 2021 and 2020

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	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,393,527	\$ 1,907,149
Investments	845,881	569,753
Land held for resale	456,000	456,000
Pledges receivable, net	<u>2,558,447</u>	<u>615,063</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 6,253,855</u>	<u>\$ 3,547,965</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Without donor restrictions	347,913	213,940
With donor restrictions	<u>5,905,942</u>	<u>3,334,025</u>
Total net assets	<u>\$ 6,253,855</u>	<u>\$ 3,547,965</u>

See notes to financial statements

**Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves**

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Statement of Activities  
 Year Ended December 31, 2021  
 With Comparative Totals for 2020

	<b>Without Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>With Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2020</b>
<b>Revenues and Support</b>				
Contributions	\$ 209,995	\$ 2,940,382	\$ 3,150,377	\$ 819,760
In-kind contributions	410,273	-	410,273	474,667
Investment income	352	93,079	93,431	50,645
Other income	1,240	-	1,240	1,050
Net assets released from restrictions	461,544	(461,544)	-	-
Total revenue and support	<u>1,083,404</u>	<u>2,571,917</u>	<u>3,655,321</u>	<u>1,346,122</u>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Program	533,188	-	533,188	948,922
Management and general	111,052	-	111,052	173,044
Fundraising	305,191	-	305,191	313,385
Total expenses	<u>949,431</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>949,431</u>	<u>1,435,351</u>
Changes in net assets	133,973	2,571,917	2,705,890	(89,229)
<b>Net Assets, Beginning</b>	<u>213,940</u>	<u>3,334,025</u>	<u>3,547,965</u>	<u>3,637,194</u>
<b>Net Assets, Ending</b>	<u><u>\$ 347,913</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 5,905,942</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 6,253,855</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,547,965</u></u>

See notes to financial statements



**Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves**

Statement of Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2020

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	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total 2020</u>
<b>Revenues and Support</b>			
Contributions	\$ 134,328	\$ 685,432	\$ 819,760
In-kind contributions	474,667	-	474,667
Investment income	3,026	47,619	50,645
Other income	1,050	-	1,050
Net assets released from restrictions	854,151	(854,151)	-
	<u>1,467,222</u>	<u>(121,100)</u>	<u>1,346,122</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Program	948,922	-	948,922
Management and general	173,044	-	173,044
Fundraising	313,385	-	313,385
	<u>1,435,351</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,435,351</u>
Changes in net assets	31,871	(121,100)	(89,229)
<b>Net Assets, Beginning</b>	<u>182,069</u>	<u>3,455,125</u>	<u>3,637,194</u>
<b>Net Assets, Ending</b>	<u>\$ 213,940</u>	<u>\$ 3,334,025</u>	<u>\$ 3,547,965</u>

See notes to financial statements

	2021	2020
<b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities</b>		
Change in net assets	\$ 2,705,890	\$ (89,229)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash flows from operating activities:		
Net realized and unrealized gains on investments	(88,774)	(39,472)
Change in assets and liabilities:		
Pledges receivable	(1,943,384)	640,376
Grants payable	-	(1,090)
	673,732	510,585
<b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities</b>		
Proceeds from maturities and sales of investments	366,011	55,770
Purchase of investments	(553,365)	(283,779)
	(187,354)	(228,009)
Net cash flows from investing activities	(187,354)	(228,009)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	486,378	282,576
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning</b>	1,907,149	1,624,573
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Ending</b>	\$ 2,393,527	\$ 1,907,149

# Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2021 and 2020

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## 1. Nature of Activities and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### Organization and Nature of Activities

The Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves (the Foundation) was established on February 20, 2007 as an Illinois not-for-profit corporation to provide financial assistance to benefit the Lake County Forest Preserve District's (the District) mission. The Foundation raises funds for a variety of purposes, including land acquisition, habitat restoration, development of trails or other amenities and educational programs. The Foundation is a component unit of the District.

The Foundation follows accounting standards established by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) to ensure consistent reporting of financial condition, results of activities and cash flows. References to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) in these footnotes are to the *FASB Accounting Standards Codification<sup>TM</sup>*, sometimes referred to as the Codification or ASC.

A summary of the Foundation's significant accounting policies follows:

### Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Foundation are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for nonprofit organizations.

### Net Assets

The Foundation's net assets, revenues, gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets of the Foundation and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

**Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions** - Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed stipulations.

**Net Assets With Donor Restrictions** - Net assets subject to donor-imposed stipulations. Some donor-imposed restrictions are temporary in nature, such as those that will be met by the passage of time or other events specified by the donor. Other donor-imposed restrictions are perpetual in nature, where the donor stipulates that resources must be maintained in perpetuity. Donor-imposed restrictions are released when a restriction expires, that is, when the stipulated time has elapsed, when the stipulated purpose for which the resource restricted has been fulfilled, or both.

### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Foundation considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. The Foundation maintains its cash in bank deposit accounts which at times, may exceed federally insured limits. The Foundation has not experienced any losses in such accounts. The Foundation believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash and cash equivalents.

### Investments

In accordance with the standards relating to accounting for certain investments held by not-for-profit organizations, the Foundation records investments at their fair or appraised values, and both realized and unrealized gains and losses are reflected in the statement of activities.

# Preservation Foundation of the Lake County Forest Preserves

Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2021 and 2020

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## Land Held for Resale

In fiscal year 2014, the Foundation received a donation of land for which it intends to sell. Land held for resale is recorded at the lower of cost or fair value less costs to sell. The Foundation has recorded this land at \$456,000 at December 31, 2021 and 2020, which was determined through independent evaluations of the current market value.

## Pledges Receivable

Pledges receivable, which includes unconditional promises to give, are reported at net realizable value and discounted to present value if not expected to be collected within one year. The discounts on those amounts are computed using risk-adjusted interest rates applicable to the years in which the promises are received. Amortization of the discounts is included in contributions revenue in the statement of activities. The allowance for uncollectible pledges is based on management's estimate of the collectability of identified receivables. Management believes all pledges receivable are collectible and, therefore, no allowance is necessary as of December 31, 2021 and 2020.

## Contributions

The Organization recognizes contributions when cash, securities or other assets or an unconditional promise to give is received. Conditional promises to give - that is, those with a measurable performance or other barrier and a right of return - are not recognized until the conditions on which they depend have been met.

## In-Kind Contributions

The Foundation records various types of in-kind support including rent, professional services and various supplies. Contributions of tangible assets are recognized at fair market value when received. Contributed rent consists of office space provided to the Foundation by the District at no charge and is based on a square foot market value calculated by the District. Contributed professional services are recognized if the services received either create or enhance long-lived assets, or require specialized skills, and would need to be purchased if not provided by donation. Such values are reflected in the statement of activities as both revenue and expense. The total amount of in-kind contributions received from the District was \$410,273 and \$474,667 for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively. There were no amounts of in-kind contributions received from sources other than the District for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020.

## Income Taxes

The Foundation has received notification that it qualifies as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and corresponding provisions of State law and, accordingly, is not subject to federal or state income taxes. However, any unrelated business income may be subject to taxation.

The Foundation follows the accounting standards for contingencies in evaluating uncertain tax positions. The guidance prescribes recognition threshold principles for the financial statement recognition of tax positions taken or expected to be taken on a tax return that are not certain to be realized. No liability has been recognized by the Foundation for uncertain tax positions as of December 31, 2021 and 2020. The Foundation's tax returns are subject to review and examination by federal and state authorities.

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## Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## Accounting Pronouncement Not Yet Effective

During September 2020, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2020-07, *Presentation and Disclosures by Not-for-Profit Entities for Contributed Nonfinancial Assets*. ASU No. 2020-07 improves financial reporting by providing new presentation and disclosure requirements about contributed nonfinancial assets, including additional disclosure requirements for recognized contributed services. The standard will be required to be applied retrospectively for annual periods beginning after June 15, 2021. The Foundation is currently assessing the effect that ASU No. 2020-07 will have on its financial statements.

## Subsequent Events

The Foundation has evaluated subsequent events for potential recognition and/or disclosure through **Date XX, 2022**, the date the financial statements were approved and available to be issued.

## 2. Investments and Fair Value

### Fair Value Hierarchy

Fair value is defined in the guidance as the exchange price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the assets or liabilities in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Under this guidance, a three-level hierarchy is used for fair value measurements which is based upon the transparency of information, such as pricing source, used in the valuation of an asset or liability as of the measurement date.

Financial instruments measured and reported at fair value are classified and disclosed in one of the following three categories.

Level 1 - Inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the reporting entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2 - Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. This includes quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, or market-corroborated inputs.

Level 3 - Inputs are unobservable for the asset or liability. Unobservable inputs reflect the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability (including assumptions about risk) using the best information available in the circumstances, which may include using the reporting entity's own data.

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## Valuation Techniques and Inputs

Level 1 - Level 1 assets include investments in stocks and exchange traded funds (ETFs), fixed income securities and mutual funds for which quoted prices are readily available.

There have been no changes in the techniques and inputs used as of December 31, 2021 and 2020.

In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety falls has been determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. The assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to the asset or liability.

While the Foundation believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different estimate of fair value at the reporting date.

The following table presents information about the Foundation's assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2021 based upon the three-tier hierarchy:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>
Stocks & ETFs	\$ 763,999	\$ 763,999	\$ -	\$ -
Mutual funds	57,942	57,942	-	-
Subtotal	821,941	<u>\$ 821,941</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Short term investments*	<u>23,940</u>			
Total investments	<u>\$ 845,881</u>			

The following table presents information about the Foundation's assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2020 based upon the three-tier hierarchy:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>
Stocks & ETFs	\$ 485,578	\$ 485,578	\$ -	\$ -
Mutual funds	67,490	67,490	-	-
Subtotal	553,068	<u>\$ 553,068</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Short term investments*	<u>16,685</u>			
Total investments	<u>\$ 569,753</u>			

\* Certain investments that are measured at cost have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy.

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### 3. Pledges Receivable, Net

Pledges receivable at December 31 consists of the following:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Gross unconditional promises to give	\$ 2,571,083	\$ 626,975
Less unamortized discount	<u>(12,636)</u>	<u>(11,912)</u>
Net unconditional promises to give	<u>\$ 2,558,447</u>	<u>\$ 615,063</u>
Amounts due in:		
Less than one year	\$ 2,318,683	\$ 207,925
One to five years	<u>252,400</u>	<u>419,050</u>
	<u>\$ 2,571,083</u>	<u>\$ 626,975</u>

Amounts that are expected to be collected after one year have been discounted at 2.26 percent and are reflected in the financial statements at their net present value.

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## 4. Net Assets With Donor Restrictions

Net assets with donor restrictions are restricted for the following purposes or periods at December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively:

	2021	2020
Subject to expenditure for specified purpose:		
Education	\$ 186,450	\$ 203,579
Natural resources	2,070,362	1,780,688
Facilities	5,000	11,500
Operations and infrastructure	11,423	14,769
Planning and land preservation	1,152	12,352
Fall Golf Classic	53,516	53,516
Fred Fest	36,930	36,930
Gratitude in the Woods	4,663	4,663
	2,369,496	2,117,997
Subject to the passage of time:		
Pledges receivable	2,215,364	141,075
Endowments:		
Subject to appropriations and expenditure when a specified event occurs:		
Restricted by donors for:		
Education programs	12,248	11,219
Middlefork Savanna	12,573	11,516
Grassy Lake	337,303	304,545
General operations of Lake County Forest Preserve		
District	18,860	17,274
Habitat Restoration	835,659	730,399
Adopt an acre	2,889	-
Adopt a trail	555	-
Benches	81,495	-
1000 Oaks	19,500	-
	1,321,082	1,074,953
Total endowments	1,321,082	1,074,953
	\$ 5,905,942	\$ 3,334,025

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purpose or by occurrence of the passage of time or other events specified by the donors totaling \$461,544 and \$854,151 for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively.



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## 5. Functional Allocation of Expenses

Expenses consisted of the following for the year ended December 31, 2021:

	<u>Program</u>	<u>Management and General</u>	<u>Fundraising</u>	<u>Total</u>
Grants	\$ 533,188	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 533,188
Bank and credit card fees	-	613	4,071	4,684
Professional services	-	620	666	1,286
In-kind contribution of:				
Salaries	-	58,836	226,044	284,880
Benefits	-	12,641	25,988	38,629
Commodities	-	1,823	1,823	3,646
Professional services	-	36,519	36,519	73,038
Rent	-	-	10,080	10,080
Total	<u>\$ 533,188</u>	<u>\$ 111,052</u>	<u>\$ 305,191</u>	<u>\$ 949,431</u>

Expenses consisted of the following for the year ended December 31, 2020:

	<u>Program</u>	<u>Management and General</u>	<u>Fundraising</u>	<u>Total</u>
Grants	\$ 948,922	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 948,922
Bank and credit card fees	-	1,017	2,236	3,253
Professional services	-	8,509	-	8,509
In-kind contribution of:				
Salaries	-	110,836	237,729	348,565
Benefits	-	20,135	31,193	51,328
Commodities	-	2,163	2,163	4,326
Professional services	-	30,384	30,384	60,768
Rent	-	-	9,680	9,680
Total	<u>\$ 948,922</u>	<u>\$ 173,044</u>	<u>\$ 313,385</u>	<u>\$ 1,435,351</u>

The financial statements report certain categories of expenses that are attributable to one or more program or supporting functions. Therefore, expenses require allocation on a reasonable basis that is consistently applied. Rent expense and other occupancy costs are allocated based on occupied space. Costs of categories such as salaries, benefits, commodities and professional services are allocated based on estimates of time and effort.

The Foundation and the District are organizations affiliated through common members of their respective Boards. The Foundation provides grants to the District for supporting projects such as the museum exhibits and restoration projects. The total amounts provided to the District during the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 was \$281,188 and \$898,922, respectively, and included in grants in the above tables.

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## 6. Endowment

The Foundation's endowment (the Endowment) consist of nine separate donor restricted endowment funds. The purposes of the endowment funds are 1) to supports education programs each year, 2) to support the Middlefork Savanna, 3) to be used toward the general operations of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, 4) to support Grassy Lake, 5) to be used for habitat restoration, 6) to be used for the adopt an acre program, 7) to be used for the adopt a trail program, 8) to be used for benches and 9) to be used for 1000 Oaks.

The Foundation's Board of Directors have interpreted the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) enacted in the State of Illinois as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. At December 31, 2021 and 2020, there were no such donor stipulations. As a result of this interpretation, we retain in perpetuity (a) the original value of initial and subsequent gifts amounts (including promises to give net of discount and allowance for doubtful accounts) donated to the endowment and (b) any accumulations to the endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument at the time the accumulation is added to the fund.

Donor-restricted amount not retained in perpetuity are subject to appropriations for expenditure by us in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by UPMIFA. In accordance with UPMIFA, the Foundation considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

1. The duration and preservation of the fund
2. The purposes of the Foundation and the donor-restricted endowment fund
3. General economic conditions
4. The possible effect of inflation and deflation
5. The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
6. Other resources of the Foundation
7. The investment policies of the Foundation

As of December 31, 2021 and 2020, endowment net asset composition by type of fund consisted of the following:

	December 31, 2021		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Donor-restricted endowment funds:			
Original donor-restricted gift amount and amounts required to be maintained in perpetuity by donor	\$ -	\$ 1,180,384	\$ 1,180,384
Earnings in excess of appropriations	-	140,698	140,698
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,321,082</u>	<u>\$ 1,321,082</u>

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	December 31, 2020		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Donor-restricted endowment funds:			
Original donor-restricted gift amount and amounts required to be maintained in perpetuity by donor	\$ -	\$ 1,027,334	\$ 1,027,334
Earnings in excess of appropriations	-	47,619	47,619
	\$ -	\$ 1,074,953	\$ 1,074,953

Changes in endowment net assets for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 are as follows:

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Endowment, net assets December 31, 2020	\$ -	\$ 1,074,953	\$ 1,074,953
Contributions	-	153,050	153,050
Investment Income	-	93,079	93,079
Endowment, net assets December 31, 2021	\$ -	\$ 1,321,082	\$ 1,321,082
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Endowment, net assets December 31, 2019	\$ -	\$ 318,717	\$ 318,717
Contributions	-	158,617	158,617
Investment Income	-	47,619	47,619
Other additions	-	550,000	550,000
Endowment, net assets December 31, 2020	\$ -	\$ 1,074,953	\$ 1,074,953

## Investment and Spending Policies

The Foundation has adopted investment and spending policies for the Endowment that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding for operations while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Over time, long-term rates of return should be equal to an amount sufficient to maintain the purchasing power of the Endowment assets, to provide the necessary capital to fund the spending policy, and to cover the costs of managing the Endowment investments. The target minimum rate of return is five percent annually over a five-year market cycle. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount. To satisfy this long-term rate-of-return objective, the investment portfolio is structured on a total-return approach through which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends).

The Foundation adopted a spending policy in February 2019 that allows for annual distributions from the Endowment of up to four percent of the average total market value of the Endowment principal over the previous 12 quarters. There was no appropriations from the endowment for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020.

**7. Liquidity and Funds Available**

The Foundation's financial assets available for general expenditure as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, that is, without donor or other restrictions limiting their use, within one year of the statement of financial position date, comprise the following:

	2021	2020
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,393,527	\$ 1,907,149
Investments	845,881	569,753
Pledges receivable, net	2,558,447	615,063
Total financial assets	5,797,855	3,091,965
Less donor restricted amounts not available within one year	(3,274,577)	(2,810,400)
Total financial assets available for general expenditures within one year	\$ 2,523,278	\$ 281,565

The Foundation has a policy of using cash and investments in marketable securities to meet cash needs for grants and general expenditures as needed.