



## Conservation and Policy Council New Member Affidavit

*As required by the municipal code of the Forest Preserves of Cook County, prior to confirmation, each candidate for appointment shall submit a statement to the Chairman of the Legislation **and** Intergovernmental Relations Committee of the Board, attesting that the candidate possesses the qualifications of members as established by Section 1-18-3 of the District's Code of Ordinances. (See page 2 of this form.) Once appointed, a member shall notify the Board in writing within seven (7) business days of any change in the member's qualifications as set forth in that Section.*

I, Brandon Hayes, attest that I possess the qualifications of a member of the Conservation and Policy Council of the Forest Preserved District of Cook County as established by Section 1-18-3 of the District's Code of Ordinances. I agree to notify the Board of Commissioners in writing within seven (7) business days of any change in my qualifications as set forth in that Section.

Date July 11, 2025

Printed Name Brandon Hayes

Signature 

Please complete and return page 1 of this form via email to [Michelle.Uting@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:Michelle.Uting@cookcountyil.gov).

## CHAPTER 18 of the Municipal Code of the Forest Preserves of Cook County Conservation and Policy Council

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### 1-18-3: QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS.

- A. Criteria to be considered in nominating or appointing individuals to serve as Members shall include:
1. Background and skills needed on the Council including, but not limited to, expertise in one (1) or more of the following:
    - a. Conservation (practice),
    - b. Ecology (science),
    - c. Education/interpretation,
    - d. Cultural resources/archeology/historic preservation,
    - e. Management/business,
    - f. Eco- or heritage tourism/market feasibility analysis,
    - g. Finance,
    - h. Public policy and planning,
    - i. Outdoor recreation,
    - j. Health and wellness,
    - k. Volunteer management,
    - l. High level government experience,
    - m. Working knowledge of the District, Chicago Botanic Garden, Brookfield Zoo and/or other culturally significant institutions affiliated with, or supportive of, the District's statutorily defined purpose.
  2. Resident of Cook County, Illinois;
  3. Availability and willingness to attend Council meetings quarterly; and
  4. Ability and willingness to:
    - a. Learn sufficient details about District management and operations in order to effectively evaluate proposed actions and reports; and
    - b. Accept and fulfill reasonable assignments from the Chairperson of the Council.
- The desired background and skills criteria was expanded to include (n) Communications and media relations, (o) Sustainability, and (p) Racial equity, diversity and inclusion.
- B. No individual shall be considered for nomination or appointment to serve as a Member if such individual is one or more of the following:
1. An elected official (excluding the Ex Officio Member) or a paid staff member of an elected official;
  2. An employee of the District (excluding the Ex Officio Member) or any other government entity for which there could be a perceived conflict of interests between the interests of the governmental employer and the interests of the Council;
  3. An employee of the Chicago Zoological Society (Brookfield Zoo), Chicago Botanic Garden, or Forest Preserve Foundation;
  4. An employee of a conservation organization; or
  5. An individual who owns five (5) percent or more of, or an individual who is employed by, a business entity that is a party to a contract with the District; or any individual with perceived conflict of interest.

(Ord. No. 14-0375, 9-9-14; Ord. No. 17-0395, 1-9-18)