



**Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners  
County Board Room, County Building**

**THIRD NEW ITEMS AGENDA**

**Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 10:00 A.M.  
Issued: Friday, March 7, 2014**

**14-0172**

**Presented by:** STANLEY MOORE, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**REPURPOSING THE WATCHMAN’S HOUSE AT 87TH AND BEVERLY AVENUE IN THE DAN RYAN FOREST PRESERVES**

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (the “Preserves”) watchman’s house at 87th and Beverly Avenue in the Dan Ryan Preserves has been unoccupied for a few years; and recently, this structure sustained significant damage due to water pipes breaking and will need extensive renovation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Dan Ryan Preserves has another watchman’s house located at 91st and Longwood Drive, which is approximately one half mile away from the house located at 87th and Beverly Avenue; and

**WHEREAS**, the watchman’s house at 87th and Beverly Avenue is conveniently located along the Major Taylor Bicycle Trail. Marshall Walter “Major” Taylor was an American cyclist who won the world 1-mile track cycling championship in 1899 after setting numerous world records and overcoming racial discrimination; and

**WHEREAS**, this unfortunate property damage at the watchman’s house located on 87th and Beverly Ave provides a unique opportunity for the Preserves to explore alternative use for the structure; and

**WHEREAS**, with the support of the local community and elected officials and with the identification of the appropriate funds, the watchman’s house located at 87<sup>th</sup> and Beverly Ave. can become a new public destination for the Preserves; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Real Estate Committee of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners requests that the Superintendent of the Preserves, and/or his designee, examine the cost and benefit of removing the watchman’s house located at 87<sup>th</sup> and Beverly from the Preserve’s Resident Watchman program; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that it is also requested that the Superintendent of the Preserves, and/or his designee conduct outreach with the Dan Ryan Preserves local community and elected officials to explore interest in alternative uses and funding sources for said watchman’s house.