



**Forest Preserve District of Cook County
Board of Commissioners**

Recreation and Engagement Committee

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

9:40 AM

**Cook County Building, Board Room, 118
North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

Issued on: 1/7/2025

NOTICE AND AGENDA

There will be a meeting of the Recreation and Engagement Committee of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners at the date, time and location listed above.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Authorization as a public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have registered, with the Secretary, to speak 24 hours in advance of the meeting. To register as a public speaker, go to the meeting details page for this meeting at <https://fpdcc.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> to find a registration link. Duly authorized public speakers may speak live from the County Board Room at 118 N. Clark Street, 5th Floor, Chicago, Illinois or be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. After each virtual speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at: <https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings>, or in a viewing area at 69 W. Washington Street, 22nd Floor, Conference Room C, Chicago, Illinois. Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, discriminatory, profane, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

[25-0063](#)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 01/23/2024

[24-0522](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A MEETING OF THE COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT RECREATION & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY PROGRAMMING

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Cook County contains a rich of African American landmarks and historical programming such as Underground Railroad sites, African American Water Trail, Beaubien Youth Outdoor Ambassadors program and Juneteenth events to name a few; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve District has long included African American history programming as part of its engagement and experiential learning activities with over \$125,000 spent on such activities and programming; and

WHEREAS, the programming and activities take place throughout the year, but also with a special focus during February, which is African American History month; and

WHEREAS, additionally, the Forest Preserve District is investing in infrastructure related to African American history such as the \$4 million improvement project to make the Beaubien Boat Launch site more amenable for groups to gather for Underground Railroad and other activities; and

WHEREAS, in advance of African American History month, it would be beneficial for the Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners to be apprised of planned programming and opportunities for additional investments and programming related to the substantial African American history located in and around the Forest Preserves of Cook County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserve District of the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby request that a meeting of the Recreation & Engagement Committee be convened in January 2025 to hear presentations from Forest Preserve District staff and organizations that provide African American History programming in the Forest Preserves including programming for Underground Railroad related activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that both Forest Preserve staff and such organizations be prepared to identify additional opportunities and recommendations for African American History programming and experiential learning in the Forest Preserves.

Effective Date: This Resolution shall be effective upon passage.

Legislative History : 12/17/24 - FPD Board of Commissioners - refer to the Recreation and Engageme

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light gray rectangular background. The signature reads "Lynne M. Turner" in a cursive script.

Secretary

Chair: S. Morrison

Vice-Chair: Stamps

Members: Aguilar, Anaya, Miller, K. Morrison, Quezada