



CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA

**Meeting of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners
County Board Room, County Building
Tuesday, June 17, 2014, 10:00 A.M.**

CONSENT CALENDAR

14-0222

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO'S MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION FALL 2013 PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2014, Professor Pipal and several of his students submitted a completed Survey of selected historical resources located on property owned by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (the "Preserves"); and

WHEREAS, sites were determined, in collaboration with personnel from the Facilities & Fleet Department of the Preserves; and

WHEREAS, students were divided into four teams of three persons each; and

WHEREAS, teams were then assigned resources based on geographic proximity; and

WHEREAS, a customized survey data form was designed and utilized for information collection; and

WHEREAS, students visited each site, developed written descriptions of each resource and conducted additional research where readily available; and

WHEREAS, a recommendation was made as to each historic resource's level of integrity (how much it had been altered over time), its physical condition, its estimated age and available historic information; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Professor Pipal, and the survey team members Jackie DeThorne, Rebeca Fernandez, Jackie Kenyon, Natalia Kwiatkowska, Kelsey Lindquist, Megan Lydon, Erica Ruggiero, Natalia Sanchez Hernandez, Jeremy Spates, Brittany Walker, Erin Weevers and Lydia Woods (collectively, the "Survey Team") have provided valuable data to the Preserves; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Arnold L. Randall, General Superintendent; Toni Preckwinkle, President; and the Board of Commissioners of the Preserves hereby thank and congratulate Professor Pipal and the Survey Team members for their service in the Reconnaissance Level Survey of Historical Resources presented to the Preserves.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to Professor Pipal and the Survey Team as a token of appreciation for their service to the Forest Preserve District of Cook County and the residents of Cook County.

Approved and adopted this 17th day of June, 2014.

14-0280

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING MARK R. THOMAS, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Mark R. Thomas, Jr. began his tenure as the Chief Financial Officer of the Forest Preserves of Cook County in September of 2011, and served under President Toni Preckwinkle and General Superintendent Arnold L. Randall; and

WHEREAS, Mark R. Thomas, Jr. brought a wealth of financial and operational expertise to the Preserves as an experienced professional, who served as Chief Administrative Officer, Chief of Staff, Budget Director, Deputy Budget Director, Acting Budget Director, Assistant Budget Director and Senior Budget & Policy Analyst for the Chicago Park District and also was a public servant for the City of Chicago and the City of Kalamazoo; and

WHEREAS, Mark R. Thomas, Jr. was the Chief Financial Officer for the Preserves, and labored tirelessly in his work, always seeking ways to improve the financial processes; and

WHEREAS, Mark R. Thomas, Jr. implemented a new financial reporting system and conducted Districtwide training; and

WHEREAS, under the tutelage of Mark R. Thomas, Jr., the Preserves received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for years 2011 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mark R. Thomas, Jr. brought to fruition and closing a \$100 million bond deal; and

WHEREAS, Mark R. Thomas, Jr. brought to his work a wealth of knowledge of both the budget and the Preserves' financial systems, including cross-departmental knowledge in areas including procurement policies and pension reform; and

WHEREAS, Mark R. Thomas, Jr. always made himself available to address the Commissioners' concerns while developing strong intergovernmental agreements with the County of Cook; and

WHEREAS, Mark R. Thomas, Jr. received degrees from the University of Chicago, Western Michigan University and University of Michigan, respectively; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Mark R. Thomas received the loving support of his family which includes his wife, Kathi Sieden-Thomas, and his son, Jackson Thomas; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Cook County benefitted greatly and will do so from his remaining legacy; and.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I President Toni Preckwinkle, and the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, do hereby express our profound gratitude to Mark R. Thomas, Jr. for his exemplary service to the people of Cook County, Illinois.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mark Thomas, as a token of our gratitude and acknowledgement of his service and his contributions to the Forest Preserve District of Cook County.