

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY**

County Board Room, County Building

Board Meeting of

Tuesday, December 11, 2018, 11:00 A.M.



TONI PRECKWINKLE, PRESIDENT

ALMA E. ANAYA
LUIS ARROYO, JR.
SCOTT R. BRITTON
JOHN P. DALEY
DENNIS DEER
BRIDGET DEGNEN
BRIDGET GAINER
BRANDON JOHNSON

BILL LOWRY
DONNA MILLER
STANLEY MOORE
KEVIN B. MORRISON
SEAN M. MORRISON
PETER N. SILVESTRI
DEBORAH SIMS
LARRY SUFFREDIN
JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI

**MATTHEW B. DeLEON
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD**

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Board of Commissioners of Cook County

PRESIDENT

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ADJOURNMENT

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS
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Board Meeting of Tuesday, December 11, 2018

11:00 A.M.

County Board Room, County Building

OFFICIAL RECORD

President Preckwinkle in the Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

At 11:00 A.M., being the hour appointed for the meeting, the President called the Board to order.

QUORUM

Secretary to the Board, Matthew B. DeLeon called the roll of members and there was found to be a quorum present.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

Also Present: President Preckwinkle

INVOCATION

Rev. Marrice Coverson gave the invocation.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

President Preckwinkle asked the Secretary of the Board to call upon the registered public speakers, in accordance with Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code.

1. Mark Armstrong
2. Stephanie Presseller
3. Jeff Nelson

PRESIDENT

18-0503

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CREDENTIALS CERTIFICATION FOR FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY DELEGATES TO THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PARK DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, the Illinois Association of Park Districts (“IAPD”) is a nonprofit service, research and education organization that serves park districts, forest preserves, conservation, municipal park and recreation, and special recreation agencies; and

WHEREAS, the IAPD advances these agencies, their citizen board members and professional staff in their ability to provide outstanding park and recreation opportunities, preserve natural resources and improve the quality of life for all people in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) is to acquire, restore and manage lands for the purpose of protecting and preserving public open space with its natural wonders, significant prairies, forests, wetlands, rivers, streams, and other landscapes with all of its associated wildlife, in a natural state for the education, pleasure and recreation of the public now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves is a member district of the IAPD; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 3 of the Constitution and By-Laws of IAPD states each member district shall be entitled to be represented at all IAPD meetings and conferences by a delegate or delegates and

that delegates may include any employee of the member district authorized by the governing board of the member district; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize General Superintendent, Arnold Randall to serve as the Forest Preserves' delegate to all IAPD business, meetings and conferences in the years 2019 through 2022, including all annual business meetings of IAPD.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in his absence from any or all Association business, Deputy General Superintendent, Eileen Figel is authorized to serve as first alternate delegate, that Delio Calzolari, Director of Legislative and Governmental Affairs, is authorized to serve as second alternate delegate and that Cathy Geraghty, Director of Strategic Initiatives, is authorized to serve as third alternate delegate.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 18-0503. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0390

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

PROPOSED ORDINANCE

TO CREATE A FOREST PRESERVE NEAR MIDLOTHIAN MEADOWS

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A FOREST PRESERVE in part of Section 15, Township 36 North, Range 13, East of the Third Principal Meridian, all in Cook County, Illinois near Midlothian Meadows in District 5.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois (the "District"), pursuant to the statutes in such case made and provided, has from time to time acquired by purchase, condemnation, gift, grant, devise, or otherwise, lands necessary and desirable for District purposes containing one or more natural forests or parts thereof, or lands connecting such forests or parts

thereof, or lands capable of being reforested for the purpose of protecting and preserving the flora, fauna, and scenic beauties within the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois, and to restore, restock, protect, and preserve the natural forests and said lands together with their flora and fauna, as nearly as may be, in their natural state and condition, for the purpose of the education, pleasure, and recreation of the public; and

WHEREAS, the said Board of Commissioners of the District also has acquired in like manner lands for the consolidation of such preserves into unit areas of a size and form convenient and desirable for public use and economical maintenance and improvement, and lands for the purpose of connecting such preserves with forested ways or links in order to increase their accessibility, use, and enjoyment, and lands for improvement by forestation, roads, and pathways, and lands for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, and operating recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the District has in a like manner acquired lands along water courses or elsewhere which, in their judgment, were required to control drainage and water conditions and necessary for the preservation of forested areas acquired or to be acquired as preserves and lands for the purpose of extension of roads and forested ways around and by such preserves and for parking space for automobiles and other facilities not requiring forested areas but incidental to the use and protection thereof; and

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the District as follows:

Section 1. That a unified Forest Preserve be and the same is hereby created within the District which shall contain and connect lands now owned and lands to be acquired in substantial accordance with the plat now on file in the office of the General Superintendent of the District, which by reference is hereby made part thereof, and for the purposes of said Forest Preserve and for the carrying out of the statutory purposes more particularly set out in the preamble of this ordinance, it is necessary and desirable for the District to own and it shall acquire property hereinafter described in Section 2 of this ordinance, for the purpose of creating a Forest Preserve and for District uses.

Section 2. That the lands referred to in Section 1 of this ordinance are more particularly described as follows:

4700 159th STREET, OAK FOREST, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Commencing at a point 990 feet East of the Southwest corner of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 15, Township 36 North, Range 13 East of the Third Principal Meridian; Thence East along the South Line of said Section 330 feet; thence North parallel with the West Line of said Section 330 feet; thence West parallel with the South Line of Said Section 330 feet; thence South 330 feet to the place of commencement, in Cook County, Illinois, excepting therefrom the South 50 feet (except that part previously dedicated or then used for roadway) of the East 330 feet of the West 1320 feet of the South

330 feet of said Southwest 1/4, as condemned by the Department of Public Works of the State of Illinois in case No. 60 S 2432 (Parcel 4 of Same).

PIN: 28-15-304-005-0000

Section 3. This ordinance is hereby made and ordained to be severable as to each parcel of land or portion thereof or right of interest in any of the same hereby authorized to be acquired, and failure to acquire any of the said parcels of land described in Section 2 hereof or right of interest in any of the same shall not impair or invalidate the authority by this ordinance granted to hold, own, or acquire any other of said parcels or any right or interest therein, it being the intention of said Board of Commissioners of the District to carry out the general plan provided in this ordinance so far as legally and financially practicable, and to negotiate for purchases, condemn, or otherwise acquire from time to time the several parcels of land described in Section 2 hereof and all right or interest therein.

Section 4. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

District 5

Effective date: This ordinance shall be in effect immediately after adoption.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Morrison, to suspend the rules and approve 18-0390. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

18-0391

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED SALE OR PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE

Department(s): Legal Department

Other Part(ies): The Catholic Bishop of Chicago, an Illinois Corporation Sole

Request: It is respectfully requested that this proposed purchase be approved.

Description of Real Estate: Saint Roch Friary, 4700 159th Street, Oak Forest, Cook County, Illinois

Section: N/A

Parcel(s): PIN: 28-15-304-005-0000

Legal description:

Commencing at a point 990 feet East of the Southwest corner of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 15, Township 36 North, Range 13 East of the Third Principal Meridian; Thence East along the South Line of said Section 330 feet; thence North parallel with the West Line of said Section 330 feet; thence West parallel with the South Line of Said Section 330 feet; thence South 330 feet to the place of commencement, in Cook County, Illinois, excepting therefrom the South 50 feet (except that part previously dedicated or then used for roadway) of the East 330 feet of the West 1320 feet of the South 330 feet of said Southwest 1/4, as condemned by the Department of Public Works of the State of Illinois in case No. 60 S 2432 (Parcel 4 of Same).

Fiscal Impact: \$260,000.00 plus up to \$10,000.00 in closing costs for a total of up to \$270,000.00

Accounts: Real Estate and Land Acquisition Fund 51006.560010

District(s): 5

Summary: The Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") has identified a parcel of land for acquisition that would add to the Forest Preserves' current holdings near Midlothian Meadows (the "Property"). The Property, commonly known as Saint Roch Friary, 4700 159th Street, Oak Forest, Cook County, Illinois, consists of approximately 2.33 ± acres. The Property is an inholding and would bolster the Forest Preserves' holdings in the area.

Through negotiations, the Owner of Record (the "Seller"), has agreed to sell the Property to the Forest Preserves for the sum of TWO HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$260,000.00) plus closing costs up to \$10,000.00 (up to \$270,000.00 in total). The purchase price is based upon two (2) M.A.I. appraisals obtained by the Forest Preserves and is subject to the Forest Preserves' satisfactory completion of its due diligence.

Permission is now sought, upon satisfactory completion of all due diligence and negotiation of any and all required documentation as determined by the Forest Preserves legal department, to remit a check in the amount of the Purchase Price plus closing costs to the Seller as full compensation for the acquisition of the Property. This land acquisition advances the goals of the Next Century Conservation Plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Morrison, to approve 18-0391. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0515

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED APPOINTMENT

Appointee(s): Alan M. Bell, Maria Pesqueira, and Shelley Spencer

Position: New Conservation and Policy Council members. The Conservation and Policy Council advises the President, Board of Commissioners and General Superintendent on specific steps to implement the Next Century Conservation Plan, the Forest Preserves of Cook County's ambitious long-range plan to restore our forest preserves to ecological health and ensure that all the residents of Cook County are welcome at the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

Department/Board/Commission: Conservation and Policy Council

Effective date: 1/1/2019

Expiration date: This appointment will remain in effect until 12/31/2021.

Summary: Alan M. Bell is a partner at the law firm of Charity & Associates, P.C., focusing on municipal finance and real estate finance. He is also the founder and president of The Elements Group, which focuses on nature-oriented development projects.

Maria Pesqueira is President of the Healthy Communities Foundation, and has served for 15 years as President & CEO to Mujeres Latinas en Accion, and previously led The National Museum of Mexican Art's Development team. She has held leadership roles in various national and local boards including the National Council of La Raza, Illinois Partners for Human Services, Community Memorial Foundation and the Aetna Medical Advisory Board.

Shelley Spencer is a four-time Emmy winning producer/writer who helps people communicate their message, mission and vision through long and short form videos. As the Supervising Producer at WYCC PBS Chicago, Shelley developed Chicago's True Nature, the Emmy-award winning documentary about the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Suffredin, seconded by Commissioner Silvestri, to refer 18-0515 to the Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0500

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ITEM AMENDMENT

Department: Planning and Development

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County to increase match funds, to utilize additional accounts, and to clarify contract end date with respect to an Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Recreational Trails Program grant. The authorization to apply for grant and, if awarded, to enter into a grant agreement, was originally approved by the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners on 4/11/2017.

Original Text of Item: **PROPOSED GRANT APPLICATION AUTHORIZATION REQUEST**

Department: Planning and Development

Grantee: The Forest Preserve District of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves")

Grantor: Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Recreational Trails Program ("RTP")

Request: Authorization to apply for grant

Purpose: Authorization to apply for grant funds and match funds if awarded for the repair of an underpass at 119th and LaGrange Road in Palos Park, IL.

Grant Amount: \$200,000.00

Grant Period: ~~Two (2) years from entering into formal agreement with Illinois Department of Natural Resources~~ From contract execution to 12/31/2020

Fiscal Impact: \$40,000.00 \$50,000.00

Accounts: Trail Accounts 51025-560063, 51026-560063, 51054-560063, 51055-560063, 51056-560063, 51057-560063, 51009-560063, and all future trail accounts; 51058.560063, 51059.560063; Consulting Services Accounts 51009.520860, 510026.520860, 510055.520860, 51056.520860, 51057.520860, 51058.520860; and future consulting services accounts

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer and Chief Attorney have approved this item.

District(s): 17

Summary: Approval of resolution authorizing the Forest Preserves to apply for a grant and, if awarded, to provide match funds and enter into an agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The RTP grant would provide funding primarily for the repair of an underpass at 119th and LaGrange in Palos Park, Illinois. The underpass repairs and other related trail repairs would enhance the popular 8.1 mile loop trail that connects to the Sag Valley Trail System. The repair of this underpass would ensure that visitors have a safe and convenient way to connect to the trail system and would contribute to the overall enhancement of the trail system.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 18-0500. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0507

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Resource Management

Vendor: Friends of the Forest Preserves, Chicago, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to increase contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Forest Preserve Experience Program

Original Contract Period: 1/1/2018 - 12/31/2022

Proposed Contract Period Extension: N/A

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: Not to exceed \$100,000.00 per year, or \$500,000.00 over the five (5) year term

Original Approval: 11/14/2017, Not to exceed \$100,000.00 per year, or \$500,000.00 over the five (5) year term

Previous Increase(s): N/A

This Increase Requested: Additional \$100,000.00 in annual contract authority. This would increase the overall total authority to an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 per year, or \$1,000,000.00 over the five (5) year term.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2018 \$200,000.00, FY 2019 \$200,000.00, FY 2020 \$200,000.00, FY 2021 \$200,000.00, FY 2022 \$200,000.00

Accounts: Intern Programs 51009.521525, 51058.521525; Habitat Enhancement 51009.521452, 51058.521452; Habitat Restoration 51009.521444, 51058.521444; Grant and Mitigation 51010.501136, 51010.521444

Contract Number(s): 17-31-117

Concurrences:

The Chief Financial Officer and Chief Attorney have approved this item.

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: The Forest Preserves is requesting an increase in the overall annual contract authority for this program to accommodate additional funding and restoration opportunities. In calendar year 2018, the Forest Preserve Foundation (the “Foundation”) granted \$125,000.00 towards the program. Approval of

this action item will facilitate the Forest Preserves' ability to utilize the funds received from the Foundation and other matching grant funds for restoration purposes including, but not limited to the ecological restoration and stream bank repair of the Plum Creek Forest Preserve. The contract was originally approved by the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners on 11/14/2017. This is a request for an increase in authority.

The Forest Preserve Experience program is a summer youth employment program providing conservation and job skills training to high-school youth, ages 15 to 19, from south and west suburban Cook County. This five (5) week program engages approximately fifty (50) youth participants and nine (9) adult field leaders annually in hands-on ecological restoration activities including, but not limited to, invasive species removal, tree mulching, and shoreline clean-up along the Forest Preserves' many lakes and waterways. Participants receive extensive environmental education and job skills training supplemented by nature-based enrichment activities which promote forest preserve awareness, and teaches participants how healthy forest preserves contribute to their community and the quality of life.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 18-0507. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0405

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Planning & Development

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: 2019 Update to the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Report Period: Five (5) Years, 2019-2023

Summary: This report is an update of capital improvement projects and funding needs for the next five (5) years (2019-2023). Capital improvement needs were identified by Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") staff, partner organizations and members of the public. The draft can be downloaded from the Forest Preserves' website at www.fpdcc.com/cip <<http://www.fpdcc.com/cip>>. Additional requests and comments can also be submitted on that web page or on the Forest Preserves' Facebook page. A final report will be issued at the January 2019 board meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to refer 18-0405 to the Capital Development Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0514

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Finance and Administration

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Procurement and Disbursements

Report Period: 10/1/2018 - 10/31/2018

Summary: Submitting the Procurement and Disbursements Report for the period of October 2018. The report is to be received and filed in compliance with Section 1-8-2 (BB) of the District's Code of Ordinances.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to receive and file 18-0514. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0512

Presented by: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Department: Conservation and Experiential Programming

Summary: Forest Preserves of Cook County Calendar - 12/11/2018 - 1/22/2019

When it Snows! Sagawau Nordic, Lemont

Cross-country skiing is a fun way to stay active during winter. Starting December 15th, as soon as conditions are skiable (frozen ground and 5" snow). Sagawau Nordic in Lemont is open daily from 9am-4pm. Trails will be open and groomed as snow conditions permit and could include a late start or an early finish. *Watch our Facebook page and call 630-257-2045 for the most up-to-date trail conditions.*

Snowshoes are available at all our Nature Centers

Snowshoes are available when snow is 4" or greater. *Equipment is limited and is loaned with no charge on a first come, first serve basis. Driver's license required.*

Follow us on Facebook to learn about pop-up Snowshoe programs when conditions allow.

Sledding Hills offer winter fun day and night!

Sledding hills are open when the ground is frozen and covered with a minimum of three inches of snow. Dan Ryan, Caldwell Woods, Swallow Cliff, Westchester Woods, Deer Grove, Schiller Woods, Pioneer Woods and Thaddeus S. "Ted" Lechowicz Woods.

Every Day, 11/3 - 1/27; 12pm - 4pm (Extended Holiday Magic hours)

Chicago Wolves Skating Rink, Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield

Glide through the holidays at the new Chicago Wolves Skating Rink at Brookfield Zoo! Skaters are welcome to bring their own skates, or rent skates on site.

Saturdays and Sundays, 12/1- 12/23, and Wednesday - Monday, 12/26 - 12/31

Holiday Magic, Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield

Now in its 37th year, celebrate Chicagoland's largest and longest running lights festival. With over one million twinkling LED lights, a 41-foot talking tree, carolers, ice carvers and much more, it's a magical time for the entire family.

Saturdays and Sundays, 12/5 - 3/3; 9:30am

Beginner Cross-Country Ski Lessons, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Learn to ski with a certified Professional Ski Instructor of America. Registration is required by phone or in person only. Registration for each lesson starts the Monday prior to the lesson date. *\$20/person. Ages 12 and up.*

Friday, 12/14; 7pm

Night Owls, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

An extended guided hike on our trails to search for local owls. Afterwards, warm up inside with

refreshments and owl artifacts. *Adults and teens only. \$3/person. Registration required by 12/12.*

Saturday, 12/15; 4pm - 8pm

Winter Bonfire, Camp Shabbona, South Holland

Giant bonfire, nature play, artmaking, and s'mores.

Saturday, 12/15 and Sunday, 12/16; 10am

Sagawau Science: Winter Bird Count, Sagawau Environmental Learn Center, Lemont

Assist the naturalist with a bird population survey. *Ages 14 and up.*

Sunday, 12/16; 5:30am

Dawn Owl Prowl, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Listen for resident great horned and screech owls as part of the 120th annual Christmas Bird Count, with Chicago Audubon's John Elliott. *Register: limited to 10 adults and children. Ages 10 and up.*

Friday, 12/21; 5pm - 8pm

Winter Exploration Days, Eggers Grove, Chicago

Get active and explore the natural beauty of your local Forest Preserve this winter! This special event offers activities to prepare you for a delightful wintertime experience. Learn how to navigate using orienteering skills, use natural materials to create various art projects, and discover the animals that make the Preserves their home during the winter. Snowshoeing and other snow activities will be available weather permitting.

Friday, 12/21; 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Winter Solstice Bonfire, Little Red Schoolhouse, Willow Springs

The winter solstice has been celebrated for centuries. We will celebrate the shortest day of the year, with a Nature Center open house, a short nature walk, and lighting of the bonfire.

Registration will open December 1st. \$3.00/person. Not suitable for groups.

Sunday, 12/23; 1pm - 3pm

Species Spotlight, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

We are never sure what nature will show us on a day to day basis. We will surprise you with an animal feature!

Wednesday - Friday 12/26 - 1/4; 9am - 4pm

Winter Break Nature Fun, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Drop in any time when we're open for nature fun both inside and outside. Free, family friendly activities every day. *Closed on January 1st.*

Friday, 12/28; 12pm - 3pm

Winter Breakout Adventures, Rolling Knolls, Elgin

Don't let the chilly winter weather bring you down - embrace the time off from school and head outdoors! Youth and families, join us for winter adventure and fun with activities like snowshoeing (*weather permitting*), crafts using wood, winter bird migration, tracking, shelter building and more!

Monday, 12/31; 6pm - 8pm

Zoo Year's Eve, Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield

Brookfield Zoo is great place to ring in the New Year with your little ones! Starting at 6:00 pm, celebrate in the Holly Jolly Theater with a live DJ, music, games, party favors, prizes and an early countdown to ring in the Zoo Year at 8:00 pm!

Wednesday - Friday, 1/2 - 1/4; 9:30am - 12pm

Winter Adventure Camp, Little Red School House, Willow Springs

Have fun outside this winter by exploring trails, learning how local wildlife survives freezing temperatures, and testing out winter experiments. *Ages 8-10. Limit 15. \$15 per child.*

Saturday, 1/5; 1pm

New Year's Resolution Walk, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Fulfill your resolution of being more active by taking a long walk with us. Afterwards, warm up with some hot cider.

Sunday, 1/6; see times below

Winter Walks, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

A winter hike through the woods.

1pm - 2:45pm if there is a base of 4" snow on snowshoes with a short lesson. *Limited number of snowshoes available; registration required at least 3 days prior to reserve snowshoes.*

1:30pm - 2:30pm if no snow.

Friday, 1/11; 5pm - 7:30pm

Cold Weather Creations, Swallow Cliff, Palos Hills

Make your own all-natural household and outdoor products using essential oils. Go on a hike, create land art, and more. *Free.*

Friday, 1/11; 7pm

Candle Lantern Hike, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Walk the trails with us by candlelight. Candle lanterns will be available for adults. We will search the night sky, listen for owls and enjoy an evening of nature, weather permitting.

Saturday, 1/12; 1pm

Conservation@Home: Winter Pruning, Trailside Museum, River Forest

Don't let cold weather stop you from gardening, as pruning your trees and shrubs in the winter has many benefits. Join University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners to learn the tricks of the trade.

Saturday, 1/12; 12pm - 3pm

Winter Exploration Days, Beaubien Woods, Chicago

Get active and explore the natural beauty of your local Forest Preserve this winter! This special event offers activities to prepare you for a delightful wintertime experience. Learn how to navigate using orienteering skills, use natural materials to create various art projects, and discover the animals that make the Preserves their home during the winter. Snowshoeing and other snow activities will be available weather permitting.

Sunday, 1/13; 1pm - 3pm

History of Camping in the Forest Preserves, Camp Reinberg, Palatine

Join us for a learning session on the connection between camping and the Forest Preserves of Cook County. *Open to all. Refreshments provided. Check camping website for details.*

Sunday, 1/20; 9:30pm

Hike in the Light of a Winter Blood Moon, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Experience the Phantom Prairie trail during the lunar eclipse. *Two-mile hike. Limited supply of snowshoes.*

Monday, 1/21; 12pm - 3pm

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, Dan Ryan Woods, Chicago

Join us for a day of stewardship. Help remove invasive plants while learning how we maintain healthy habitats. Warm up with a hot drink and a brush pile burn while enjoying winter family-fun activities.

A motion was made by Commissioner Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to receive and filed 18-0512. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

COMMITTEE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

RULES COMMITTEE MEETING OF 12/11/2018

18-0539

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS meeting held on 11/13/2018

A motion was made by Commissioner Suffredin, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 18-0539. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF 12/11/2018

18-0532

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (LITIGATION) Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation– 11/13/2018

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Sims, to approve 18-0532. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0536

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (WORKERS COMP) Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Workers Compensation– 12/11/2018

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Sims, to approve 18-0536. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0508

PROPOSED DISBURSEMENT Kee Construction, LLC Chicago, Illinois

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Sims, to approve 18-0508. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0516

PROPOSED DISBURSEMENT Kee Construction, LLC Chicago, Illinois

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Sims, to approve 18-0516. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

18-0513

REPORT Corporate Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expense 1/1/2018 – 10/31/2018

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Sims, to approve 18-0513. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Arroyo, seconded by Commissioner Silvestri, to adjourn [FILE_NR]. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Anaya, Arroyo, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Silvestri, Sims, Suffredin, and Tobolski (17)