

## **RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP**

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, April 9, 2019 following the Annual Meeting at 6:00 pm

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 pm following the Annual Town Meeting at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Carla Sloan.

**Roll called:** Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Mark Kelty, Helene Connolly and Karen Taubman. Also present: Clerk Abby Schmelling, Mental Health Services/General Assistance Administrator, Avis Rudner, and Senior Outreach Coordinator, Cathaleen Roach. Township Attorney, Pat Deady, Trustee Holly Economos and RFCCA Administrator Dick Chappell were absent.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Kelty to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2019 minutes. The motion passed unanimously. A second motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2019 minutes was made by Trustee Taubman and seconded by trustee Connolly. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Public Participation**

Past Township Trustee and Moderator of the 2019 Annual Town Meeting, Mary O'Brien, commented.

#### **Reports**

##### **Assessor**

**Pamela Kende**

- In March, River Forest was still open for assessment appeals with the Cook County Assessor. River Forest closed March 8<sup>th</sup>. We then helped residents complete final data for their appeal.
- Received many phone calls regarding the re-review process after those letters were sent out by the County.
- Continued to do exemptions.
- Completed permits.
- Completed fiscal year Annual Report.

##### **Mental Health Services/General Assistance**

**Avis Rudner**

- The Mental Health Committee finalized recommendation for next year's mental health budget.

- Carla attended both training sessions for the HUB and worked with Aunt Bertha people to add Township-related programs to the HUB.
- Carla attended the DD Consortium meeting where there was extensive discussion of the ‘They Deserve More’ initiative to the legislature to increase the hourly wage for DSP group home workers.
- Carla spoke about National Rx Take Back Day in Oak Park.

## **Youth Services**

**Carla Sloan**

- Carla spoke about the ‘Hidden in Plain Sight: Detecting Teen’s Risky Behaviors’ collaborative parent program set for 6pm Thursday, April 25 at Oak Park River Forest High School, followed by light dinner and panel discussion about substance prevention.
- Carla talked about the Positive Youth Development (PYD) which was published in the *Wednesday Journal*.

## **Senior Outreach Coordinator**

**Cathaleen Roach**

- Cathaleen commented that we have completed preparations for Celebrating Seniors Week, May 2-9, 2019, the tri-suburb effort with Oak Park and Forest Park sponsoring free programming and other events celebrating seniors; and continue now with our publicity and other outreach efforts for the May events. The completed CSW Booklet will come out in the *Wednesday Journal* on April 24.
- Celebrating Seniors All Year Long programming with River Forest Library, included ‘A History of the Chicago El (59 attendees); TV Memories from the 60’s with Steve Cooper (46 attendees); and The March Friday Film Lovers (11 attendees). Coming up on Saturdays: April 14 is Cheese 101—Caputo’s all you wanted to know about cheese, with samples; and April 27 at Good Earth is Spring Container Design hands-on gardening workshop. Attendance at all programs continues to be strong.
- The next Dementia Friendly River Forest meeting is April 29.
- Trustee Taubman attended the monthly Senior Services Committee meeting.
- Carla attended the Dementia Live training which simulates what it’s like to have dementia. First responders are all being trained.
- We are planning our Older Americans Mental Health Awareness Day event in May with mental health screenings and follow up with people who need evaluation.

## **Supervisor's Report**

**Carla Sloan**

- Carla attended the Administrators meeting. The Library is resuming its construction plan which they will do throughout the fall. The Library is now fine-free. The Park District tabled its artificial turf vote.
- Carla went to Springfield for Township Topics Day. Senator Lightford was the keynote speaker and Carla was able to connect with her. She met with Representative Chris Welch as well. She also teamed up with other township elected officials and met with their representatives. Carla told the board about HB2525, another coterminous consolidation bill, and HB348, which seeks to consolidate townships in McHenry County, even though a public referendum and McHenry County officials said “no”.
- In the packet is a page from the Townships of Illinois (TOI) News featuring Supervisor Sloan and her thoughts on Township Topics Day.
- Carla met with Wendy Senger at Oak Park Township about their new website. They have hired Go Daddy to develop a new site with a rough draft by the end of April.
- Carla attended a funders seminar at the Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation. It was led by a woman from the McCormick Foundation on how to evaluate the effectiveness of programs that you fund.
- Carla talked about the new limit of two Township items in the Village e-News. Discussion followed.

## **Approval of Bills**

- Trustee Connolly made a motion to approve Operating Fund bills as of March 31, 2019 in the amount of \$78,185.55. It was seconded by Trustee Kelty. Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees Connolly, Kelty, Taubman and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Taubman made a motion to approve Operating Fund bills as of April 30, 2019 totaling \$8,958.96. It was seconded by Trustee Kelty. Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees Connolly, Kelty, Taubman and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Unfinished Business**

- Carla explained the FY2020 funding recommendations from the Youth Services Committee, and the River Forest Mental Health Committee.
- Carla went over the FY2020 funding request for Senior Programs with River Forest Public Library: \$488 for “Gather-Discover-Engage series; and \$3200 for Celebrating Seniors All Year Long programming. A motion to approve the RFPL request not to exceed \$3700 was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Taubman. Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees

Taubman, Connolly, Kelty and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

- The FY2020 funding request budget for Township Youth Services and the funding request budget from Township Senior Services were reviewed by Carla and discussed. Carla went over the River Forest resident usage for senior services.

The Budget Hearing for FY2020 will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will be on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Trustee Taubman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Connolly. The motion was unanimous, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Abby Schmelling, Clerk