

**RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2015**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees took place on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at the River Forest Civic Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:22 pm by Supervisor Carla Sloan.

Roll called:

Present: Supervisor Carla Sloan, Trustees Anna Romeo, Veronica Belmonte, and Mark Kelty

Absent: Mary O'Brien

Also present: Clerk Karen Taubman, Assessor Kende, Mental Health/GA Administrator Rudner, Attorney Deady, RFCC Executive Director Dick Chappell, and Jane Schlichting

Trustee Belmonte made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2015 regular meeting. Trustee Romeo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Participation

- none

Assessor

Pamela Kende

- On Monday, February 23 at 7pm, Assessor Kende will hold a property tax outreach for residents.
- First installment tax bills for 2014 and 2015 appeals are both due on March 3rd.
- Assessor Kende will attend a week long continuing education course in Bloomington, IL.

Mental Health Committee (MHC)/General Assistance (GA)

Avis Rudner

- Ms. Rudner passed out a postcard for the PIAT North Conference to be held at Dominican on March 21st. Supervisor Sloan will be making the welcoming comments at the conference, since River Forest Township is a sponsor. Preregistration is required for this conference.
- River Forest Township assisted in sponsoring the 3rd annual Youth and Family Behavioral Health Consortium breakfast at the Carleton in Oak Park on January 21st.
- Supervisor Sloan developed a new Mental Health flyer for use at upcoming programs and public forums.
- The MH Resource Guide was developed with tremendous support from MHC member, Jean Meister. Supervisor Sloan proposed mailing the MH Resource Guide to all RF households as a strong outreach mechanism. Since the Township budgeted to mail, "What Can Your Township Do For You" this fiscal year, but did not do so, these monies are available. Trustees agreed on the importance of this effort. The 16-page booklet will be mailed to all residents, at a cost of \$1,600.
- Supervisor Sloan attended the MyHAT Valentine's Day Tea at Unity Temple. This outreach event was an opportunity for residents from River Forest and surrounding areas to learn about mental health resources, advocacy, education, etc.
- Planning continues for the sibling support group, SibShop, with Thrive and NAMI.
- The Mental Health Committee will make its funding recommendations for FY2016 at its March meeting.
- Pam Mauro is resigning from the MHC due to a change in residency, so a committee member position will be open.
- NAMI has asked the Township to help them introduce the program, "Ending the Silence" into Roosevelt Middle School (RMS). This program helps raise awareness and change perceptions of mental health

issues. Supervisor Sloan will meet with District 90 to see if the program can become part of the next year's schedule. The program is in place in Oak Park middle schools, OPRFHS, Trinity and Fenwick.

- Opportunity Knocks celebrated their 5th anniversary on Friday at the RFCC. The Township was represented by Supervisor Sloan, Clerk Taubman and MHC member Patti Marino.
- A new GA recipient will be starting in February.

Youth Services Committee (YSC)

Carla Sloan

- IMP.A.C.T. held their café at OPRFHS on January 26.
- Susie Bohun, IMP.A.C.T. Administrator, moved into her new work space at the Township offices.
- The White Paper project continues. Kathy Kane-Willis is completing the River Forest interviews, and data has been requested from the police and the IDPH.
- The YSC will complete the funding review process for next year at its March meeting.
- Supervisor Sloan has joined the steering committee for Success for All Youth (SAY). SAY aims to organize local government, nonprofit and educational resources to address the social and emotional development of youths living in Oak Park and River Forest. SAY will meet on February 26.

Senior Services

Carla Sloan

- The Senior Health Series, co-sponsored by the Township and RF Library, has one remaining event: Dr. Vicky Brander discussing arthritis on March 16th.
- Supervisor Sloan attended the January 29th kick-off meeting for the 5th annual Celebrating Seniors Week, to be held May 14-21.

Comments

Carla Sloan

- The River Forest Township flag was out-of-date, so a new flag was requisitioned. Supervisor Sloan unveiled the new flag and dedicated it in honor of Ethel Kolerus, who passed away in January. In 1969, Kolerus became the first female Township supervisor in Cook County and held that office in Wheeling Township for 12 years.
- The Township's communications needs continue to expand. Supervisor Sloan noted that going forward, the Township will require communications expertise in graphic design and website development, in addition to public relations. As such, the Township will not continue its public relations retainer, so that we can best use our communications budget to address all of our needs.
- Temporary handicapped parking placards and discount booklets for Blue Cab rides will be made available at Village Hall on March 1st, in addition to the Township offices.
- Supervisor Sloan mentioned that the Township and Village have begun working together to assess the cost and feasibility of a plan for snow removal program for seniors.

Approval of Bills

- Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve bills for February 2015 in the amount of \$80,194.71. See enclosure. Trustee Kelty seconded. Roll called.
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, Belmonte, Kelty
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve general assistance for February 2015 in the amount of \$80.64. See enclosure. Trustee Belmonte seconded. Roll called.
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, Belmonte, Kelty
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business**Carla Sloan**

- Dick Chappell provided trustees and Attorney Deady a draft of a Services Agreement between the Township and RFCC, to include front end services, bookkeeping, and IT/server. Trustees will vote on the agreement in March.
- Supervisor Sloan provided trustees a copy of the Shared Office Space Agreement between the River Forest Township and IMP.A.C.T.
- The Senior Outreach Coordinator position job description is being developed.

New Business**Carla Sloan**

- Supervisor Sloan presented two new YSC committee candidates to the board: Kimberly Fields and Jane Hastings. She provided a brief description of their experience. Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve their memberships, Trustee Belmonte seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
- Supervisor Sloan proposed the development of a new website be a primary focus for the new fiscal year. She noted that the current website is “first generation” and no longer meets the Township’s growing needs. It would be beneficial to have a website that can be updated in house, with photos, graphics, calendar, search mechanism and email capability. Sloan will prepare a request for bid, to be sent to around 5 firms.

No executive session was held, all items will be held until March.

Trustee Belmonte made a motion to adjourn at 7:59pm. Trustee Kelty seconded, the motion was unanimous, and the meeting adjourned immediately.

The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will take place on Tuesday, March 17th 2015 @ 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Taubman, Clerk