

**RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, April 14, 2015**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees took place on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at the River Forest Civic Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Supervisor Carla Sloan.

**Roll called:**

Present: Supervisor Carla Sloan, Trustees Mark Kelty, Mary O'Brien, and Anna Romeo

Absent: Veronica Belmonte

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

Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular March 16, 2015 meeting, Trustee Kelty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Participation**

- none

**Assessor**

**Pamela Kende**

- The Cook County Assessor has certified River Forest numbers, so all property tax appeals are finalized.
- The office is assisting homeowners with applying for senior exemptions or senior freezes, which require a certificate of error at this time. Homeowners and disability exemptions have one more week before they require certificates of error.
- Assessor Kende completed 30 hours of continuing education last month.

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

**Avis Rudner**

- The PIAT (Piecing It All Together) Conference was held at Dominican (Priory Campus) on Saturday, March 21, 2015. River Forest Township was one of the sponsors and Supervisor Sloan delivered welcome remarks. It was a successful day with about 150 attendees.
- We continue to plan the upcoming SibShop; Thursday and Saturday sessions are available from April through June. Families have already expressed interest in the program, but please let other families know about the program.
- Ms. Rudner attended a public meeting on April 8 with State Senator Kimberly Lightford to discuss the stigma of mental health in our community. Lightford discussed an amendment to Illinois Senate Bill 565 that requires health examination within one year prior to entering kindergarten or the 1<sup>st</sup> grade and upon entering the sixth and ninth grades. The amendment would require the addition of a social and emotional screening.
- We have one current GA recipient; the individual is utilizing Prevail's job readiness program and seems to be making significant progress with her resume and job hunting efforts.

**Youth Services Committee (YSC)**

**Carla Sloan**

- The monthly YSC meeting was cancelled due to a number of members being unavailable.
- Supervisor Sloan met with Susan Stearns in regards to the T.I.M.E. program.
- Supervisor Sloan attended the Success for All Youth Steering Committee meeting at the end of March; the group is still working to clarify and define efforts to fulfill their mission.
- The White Paper was completed and will be reviewed by the Township board, Mental Health Administrator Avis Rudner, as well as Lisa De Vivo and a sub-committee of the OP Community Mental

Health Board. Ms. Rudner will meet with the sub-committee next week, to discuss the next steps in the formal dissemination of the paper. Supervisor Sloan asked Trustees to review the information.

### **Senior Services**

**Carla Sloan**

- The Senior Committee met in March to discuss Celebrating Senior Week.
- Supervisor Sloan distributed the Oak Park & River Forest Townships News & Views newsletter. The River Forest Township is now mentioned numerous times in the newsletter, listing Oak Park and River Forest Township trustees. Sloan thanked Avis Rudner for her recommendations in regard to these changes.
- The last Health Series talk will be on Monday at 11a.m. with Dr. Vicki Brander to discuss arthritis care in Room 202.
- Supervisor Sloan has met with the River Forest Library to plan the Celebrating Seniors All Year Long series; this year will feature 5 programs and will focus on culture, authors, and historians.
- Our AV system is almost complete, so we can feature movies. Our first senior movie is on Friday. John Stacho at the RFCC has been very helpful in installing the new system.
- Supervisor Sloan met in late March with Eric Palm and Desiree Scully (Senior Services) to discuss developing a snow removal program for seniors. A significant number of local communities offer a snow removal program for seniors.

### **Supervisor's Comments**

**Carla Sloan**

- Supervisor Sloan thanked Township Trustees for their support throughout the past year.
- Supervisor Sloan has been working quite a bit on the SibShop program, including outreach to agencies and schools to get the program in place and encourage kids to participate.
- The Thrive benefit is recognizing the support of River Forest Township, among other community partners. Supervisor Sloan will appear in a video featuring those community partners.

### **Approval of Bills**

- Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve bills for March 31, 2015 in the amount of \$95,189.06. See enclosure. Trustee O'Brien seconded. Roll called.  
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, Kelty, O'Brien  
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Romeo made a motion to General Assistance for March 31, 2015 in the amount of \$259.78 See enclosure. Trustee O'Brien seconded. Roll called.  
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, Kelty, O'Brien  
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve bills for April 30, 2015 in the amount of \$5,371.17. See enclosure. Trustee Kelty seconded. Roll called.  
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, Kelty, O'Brien  
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Carla Sloan**

- Supervisor Sloan posted the Senior Outreach Coordinator Position on the Township website as well as the River Forest Village Newsletter. She has received numerous inquiries for the position.
- There has been no action yet in either the website or auditor RFP process; planning the SibShop has been a priority.
- Trustees asked again for an agenda for the May 27 village-wide meeting. Sloan reminded trustees to set aside this date on their calendars.

## Unfinished Business

Carla Sloan

- MHC Coordinator Avis Rudner presented new potential committee member Elizabeth Davies to the Township board. Elizabeth introduced herself to the board, and provided a brief description of her background. Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve her membership, Trustee Kelty seconded, and all approved.

## New Business

Carla Sloan

- The Holiday Food & Gift Basket has requested funding for the Gift Card program and groceries in the amount of \$1500.00.
  - Trustee O'Brien made a motion to approve the Holiday Food & Gift Basket request for \$1500.00. See enclosure. Trustee Kelty seconded. Roll called.  
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, Kelty, O'Brien  
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- IMP.A.C.T. requested \$1500.00 in funding for a Roosevelt Middle School parent café and 5 "continuing conversation" coffees. \$1000.00 is to support the café moderator and \$500 for refreshments and tangible takeaways at the coffees. They are adding to the café format to include follow-up conversations afterwards, as requested by participants. Trustees felt the Township could support the cafe moderator cost, but not the cost of refreshments.
  - Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve the cost of the IMP.A.C.T. Moderator at a cost of \$1000.00. See enclosure. Trustee O'Brien seconded. Roll called.  
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, Kelty, O'Brien  
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- The River Forest Public Library has requested funding for the Computer Learning Labs for seniors. In the past fiscal year, participation in this program has almost doubled. Township support enables the Library to offer 5 eight-week sessions, with minimal break in between.
  - Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve the expense of \$1750.00 for senior computer programming at the River Forest Public Library. See enclosure. Trustee Kelty seconded. Roll called.  
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, Kelty, O'Brien  
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

No executive session was held, minutes will be held for a future meeting.

Trustee O'Brien made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Trustee Kelty seconded, the motion was unanimous, and the meeting adjourned immediately.

The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will be on Tuesday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Taubman, Clerk