

**RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 21, 2017**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees took place on Tuesday, February 21 at the River Forest Civic Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Supervisor Carla Sloan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll called:

Present: Supervisor Carla Sloan, Trustees Mary O'Brien and Anna Romeo and Helene Connolly

Absent: Trustee Mark Kelty, Assessor Pamela Kende.

Also present: Clerk Abby Schmelling, MH/GA Administrator Avis Rudner, Senior Outreach Coordinator Cathaleen Roach, Patrick Deady, Dick Chappell, and Holly Economos

Trustee O'Brien made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected of the regular January, 2017 meeting, Trustee Romeo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Participation

Dr. Bakahia Madison gave a presentation on IMPACT's new website, a project which the Township is helping to fund.

Reports

Assessor

Pamela Kende

Assessor Kende was absent, but provided a written report indicated below that was read at the meeting:

- Two press releases were put on the Village and Township websites.
- A newspaper article was written for the Wednesday Journal.
- An article was revised from the Village President's special e-mail releases.
- The assessor attended the following meetings: CCTAA, Mapping, internal 2017-2018 Assessor's office budget.
- For the month of January: 176 resident contacts. Exemptions: Seniors/freeze 104; homeowners 28. pre-appeal packets 16.
- Answered phone calls regarding the first installment tax bill.

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

Avis Rudner

- As reported last month, the DD Consortium has been running an ongoing series of full page ads with stories of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. March is Developmental Disabilities month.
- River Forest Township co-sponsored the Youth and Family Behavioral Health Consortium's breakfast on January 26. Twenty-five local service providers attended and provided information on

their programs and activities.

- There was an IMPACT meeting on January 30. The new website was discussed and is now available.
- There are two GA clients.
- Avis mentioned that Supervisor Sloan attended the Suicide Prevention Task Force meeting on February 2 at Riveredge Hospital. Carla then spoke about this first meeting and strategies for the future of the group.
- Carla also commented about LOSS, the support group for people who have lost loved ones to suicide. The group has enough participants and starts March 2. Members of the Suicide Prevention Task Force recognized the fine reputation of the LOSS program.
- Carla commented on Sibshops which is doing well with 10-12 attendees. Carla attended the special education parents forum at Roosevelt on February 1. She will attend a similar meeting on February 13 at Willard to talk about behavior strategies.
- Work is progressing on the Community Mental Health Needs Assessment. The survey is in the final stages. It should be out by the end of February on Survey Monkey, but paper copies will also be available. There will also be data analysis and focus groups/interviews with community stakeholders.

Youth Services Committee (YSC)

Carla Sloan

- The Youth Committee met on February 1 to start reviewing the grant applications. The items funded by the Township are similar to last year. The robotics camp at Concordia, which has been a great success, has asked for more funding due to a doubling in enrollment.
- IMPACT's presentation by Dr. Madison received positive comments. Ginger Colamussi from the high school will collaborate with other western suburb high schools in order to learn more from neighboring communities about prevention. IMPACT is working on its November parent cafe, which is being repositioned as an educational forums. This forum is sponsored by the Roosevelt PTO and will be held outside the school to generate more interest.
- A new member is still being sought for the Committee.

Senior Services

Cathaleen Roach.

- Since the January meeting, the Township has co-sponsored four events with the Library with a heavy emphasis on Presidential themes. These included programs on First Ladies, and Presidential libraries as well as a different program on Oscar predictions.
- For the tri-suburban Celebrating Seniors Week in May, we will host or sponsor four programs here at the Township in addition programs being co-sponsored with the Library.
- We will represent the Township early next month with a table at the Senior Citizens' Center's Health and Longevity Expo.
- We have received six constituent calls this month inquiring about services for aging parents, local assisted living facilities, and transportation issues.
- The March Coffee Monday will feature four volunteering opportunities available locally for RF seniors including the Animal Care League and the Oak Park Food Pantry.
- Due to a Boston snowstorm on February 13, the live webinar featuring Atul Gawande, author of Being Mortal, co-sponsored with the Arbor West Neighbors group, had to be cancelled. It will be rescheduled for early summer.

Supervisor's Comments

Carla Sloan.

- Carla has been working extensively on the website to update content, and then Abby will help maintain it.
- Carla made an uncontested candidate's taping for the League of Women Voters, and there was a contested candidates League night as well where Trustee Helene Connolly, former Clerk Karen Taubman and resident Holly Economos spoke.
- Carla has started working with a graphics designer to kickstart the 100th anniversary. Carla and Matt will be meeting with resident and former Township Trustee Harriet Hausman to interview her. Matt Baron and Senior Services Committee member Chris Hauri also met with centenarian Marian Brennen.

Unfinished Business

- No Unfinished Business

New Business

Carla Sloan

- The Proclamation in Support of Volunteer Day April 26, 2017 was unanimously approved. The motion was made by Trustee Romeo and seconded by Trustee Connolly. There will be a booth volunteer fair at the Oak Park Library.
- The grant request for \$1,500 for the Holiday Food and Gift Basket program for FY 2018 was approved by roll call. The motion was made by Trustee O'Brien and seconded by Trustee Romeo and passed unanimously.
- The Intergovernmental Agreement for Youth Services between Oak Park and River Forest Townships was approved by roll call for fiscal years 2017-18. The motion was made by Trustee Romeo and seconded by Trustee Connolly and passed unanimously.
- The Memorandum of Understanding between River Forest Township and the Oak Park Community Mental Health Board for the Mental Health Needs Assessment was discussed and approved by roll call for fiscal years 2017-18. The motion was made by Trustee Romeo and seconded by Trustee Connolly and passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills

- Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve bills totalling \$127,405.34. It was seconded by Trustee O'Brien. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, O'Brien, and Connolly. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Romeo made a motion to General Assistance in the amount of \$659.10. It was seconded by Trustee Connolly. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, O'Brien and Connolly. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

The board went into Executive Session at 8:02 pm to discuss an employment issue. The regular meeting resumed at 8:18 pm. The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will be on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Trustee Romeo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Connolly seconded, the motion was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Abby Schmelling, Clerk