

**RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 18, 2017**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees took place on Tuesday, April 18 at the River Forest Civic Center, following the Annual Meeting held at 6:00 pm. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Carla Sloan.

Roll called

Present: Supervisor Carla Sloan, Trustees Mark Kelty, Mary O'Brien and Helene Connolly. Absent: Trustee Anna Romeo.

Also present: Clerk Abby Schmelling, Senior Outreach Coordinator Cathaleen Roach, Patrick Deady, Dick Chappell, Buff Martin and Holly Economos.

Trustee Kelty made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected of the regular March 21, 2017 meeting, Trustee O'Brien seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Participation - None

Reports

Assessor

Pamela Kende

- In March, River Forest was still open for assessment appeals with the Cook County Assessor. River Forest closed March 7th. We then helped residents complete the final data for their appeal.
- The Assessor received many phone calls regarding the re-review process after those letters were sent out by the County..
- The Assessor's office is continuing to do exemptions: Seniors, disabled veterans, homeowners, etc.
- The Assessor completed fifteen hours of continuing education.
- Permits have been completed as well as the fiscal year Annual Report..
- Totals: Over 300 phone calls, 340 e-mails and 64 exemptions.

Mental Health Committee (MHC)/General Assistance (GA)
(The report was read into the minutes by Supervisor Carla Sloan)

Avis Rudner

- The Mental Health Committee met on April 4 and recommended funding of programs totaling \$157,700. In addition to current programs there is a pilot program to Way Back Inn in support of outreach and a family support program.

- Beginning in May, the Mental Health committee will resume invitations to funded agency Executive Directors and other community leaders to spend thirty minutes with us at the beginning of our meeting to familiarize us with their programs. Karen Buzell who is the head of District #90 Special Ed will speak at the September meeting.
- We have two General Assistance clients and Avis is interviewing a third.
- The Needs Assessment Survey is now closed. So far, there were 200 responses from River Forest which is about 20% of the total. The firm LHF is doing the data analysis. The stakeholder list has been prepared and six meeting dates are set. Save the Dates announcements are going out.
- The LOSS (Loved Ones Survivors of Suicide) group finished up their five week session and has a final wrap-up meeting on April 20. We will be meeting with them to determine the next session and format.
- The final Sibshop for this season is April 22 and then off until fall. We will likely keep the same model and try to get Oak Park funding for the Oak Park kids in July, and there is hope for a sibshop at the high school level.
- Mental Health Committee funding recommendations will be taken up at the May 16 meeting.

Youth Services Committee (YSC)

Carla Sloan

- The Youth Services Committee met April 5 to finalize grant recommendations which will be reviewed at the May 16 meeting.
- Supervisor Sloan attended workshops on opioids and addiction on April 7 at Riveredge Hospital.
- Two additional people have inquired about the Youth Services Committee, to be followed up.

Senior Services

Cathaleen Roach.

- Since the March meeting, there was participation with the Library in two events: Sunday, April 2, Take a ride on the Lincoln Funeral Train with historian Dave Clark; and Monday, April 3, Coffee Monday where Judy Smith introduced our residents to Arbor West neighbors and their initiatives.
- There will be a CSAYL (Celebrating Seniors All Year Long) presentation on Sunday, April 23: "Architectural Interior Design Workshop" with designer Maura Braun.
- Work continues on our participation (nine events at the RFCC and in River Forest) with Celebration Seniors Week, where over 40 free presentations are scheduled throughout the three villages from May 18-25.
- Cathaleen represented the Township on April 18 at the very successful jointly-sponsored symposium on Resilient Aging at Concordia University, with Arbor West Neighbors. Over 110 people attended the event.

- Senior Outreach has been contacted by and agreed to help Willard PTO in their outreach to local seniors for a Senior Tea sponsored by the grade school to honor and celebrate local seniors. Approximately two hundred seniors are expected to attend.
- (Per Supervisor Sloan) Oak Park Township asked us to participate in the interview process for the Senior Services Director and Supervisor Sloan has agreed . The Township will review the Township Senior Services funding request at the May 16 meeting.

Supervisor's Comments

Carla Sloan.

- The hearing on the budget will be May 23 at 7 pm. There will still be the May 16 meeting. A draft of the budget will be sent out tomorrow, April 19.
- Carla presented the 100th Anniversary logo which did not copy well so will be seen in color at the next meeting.
- A legislative update was given, and Carla was in on a call with TOI and TOCC leadership which focused on HB 496, a one-size fits all bill to eliminate townships and Senate Bill 3 which is more palatable. Carla, TOI and TOCC will be in Springfield on April 26 for Township Topics Day.
- Carla welcomed Holly Economos and Karen Taubman who were elected as Trustees in the April election.
- A reminder that the Statement of Economic Interest is due May 1 and that the June 20 meeting has been moved to June 13.

Approval of Bills

- Trustee O'Brien made a motion for approval of bills up to April 30, 2017 of \$9,302.33 excluding excluding check number 2286 to Pam Kende and check number 2289 to the River Forest Community Center. Trustee Connolly seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Kelty, O'Brien, and Connolly. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Trustee O'Brien and seconded by Trustee Kelty for provisional approval of a check to Pam Kende for less than \$2,666.75 and a check to the River Forest Community Center for the corrected amount. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Kelty, O'Brien and Connolly. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Trustee O'Brien and seconded by Trustee Connolly to approve bills with an ending date of March 31, 2017 in the amount of \$66,633.51. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Kelty, O'Brien and Connolly. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Kelty to approve the General Assistance bill of \$219.44. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Kelty, O'Brien and Connolly. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

- Approval of The IMPACT funding request for a parent education forum at Roosevelt Middle School for \$600 to pay for a facilitator. Supervisor Sloan presented updates to the request to the trustees from Dr. Bakahia Madison. Discussion followed. A motion to approve the request for \$600 was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Kelty. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Kelty, O'Brien and Connolly. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of the IMPACT funding request from March for director projects was brought up. The request proposal remained the same. Discussion followed. A motion to approve the request for \$5,000 (100 hours at \$50/hour) was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Kelty. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Kelty and Connolly. Nays: Trustee O'Brien. The motion passed.

New Business

Carla Sloan

- Proclamations and Appreciation for Trustees Mary O'Brien and Anna Marie Romeo were presented. Resolution 201701 for Trustee Mary O'Brien was read by Supervisor Sloan and signed by the Board of Trustees. Resolution 20102 for Trustee Anna Marie Romeo was read by Supervisor Sloan and also signed by the Board of Trustees.

The board went into Executive Session at 8:18 pm to discuss an employment issue. The regular meeting resumed at 8:37 pm. The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will be on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Trustee O'Brien made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Connolly seconded, the motion was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Abby Schmelling, Clerk