

**RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 10, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees took place on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at the River Forest Civic Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m. by Supervisor Carla Sloan, following the Annual Town Meeting.

Roll called

Present: Supervisor Carla Sloan, Trustees Karen Taubman, Holly Economos, and Helene Connolly. Also present: Clerk Abby Schmelling, Mental Health/GA Administrator Avis Rudner, Senior Outreach Coordinator Cathaleen Roach, Township Attorney Pat Deady, and RFCCA Administrator Dick Chappell. Trustee Kelty was not present.

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2018 meeting was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Taubman. The motion passed.

Public Participation-None

Reports

Assessor

Pamela Kende

In March, River Forest Township was still open for assessment appeals with the Cook County Assessor. The River Forest Township appeal period closed March 6.

Avis Rudner

- The Mental Health Committee has completed its budget recommendations to the Trustees for funding requests for 2018-2019 fiscal year. The committee will resume inviting community members and agency staff to their meetings in May.
- There is one GA client.
- The Opioid Task Force meets April 19, and there is a lot of interest by people wishing to join. The Task Force will be working with non-traditional partners, such as coffee shops and realtors.
- Sibshops has its last session on April 21 and planning to have one Thrive staff trained at the formal Sibshop training in May.
- The Text-a-Tip suicide prevention program is rolling out well. The Task Force meeting is Wednesday, April 11 to get the latest update. All three school district social workers and principals are being trained in the next two weeks on Text-a-Tip. The program is working with student groups. The Assessor's office helped residents appeal their assessment and helped residents complete final data for their appeal.
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- The Assessor received many phone calls regarding the re-review process after those letters were sent out by the County. She continued to do exemptions; updated the computer system with new hardware that enables the computer to make faster connections; completed permits, and compiled statistics for the Annual Report.
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- **Mental Health Committee (MHC)/General Assistance (GA)** to give the program a better name and do the logo and artwork. Two names that are being looked at are Here For You and Support For You. There will be a soft roll out in May so the students have access to the texting number and the resource during the summer, with a more aggressive roll out in the fall. Funding began through the Community Foundation with additional funds through Rotary and ongoing funding by the Townships. The most challenging part for us is to provide a template for the social workers who answer the texts, which is where we establish the protocol and procedures for referrals.

Youth Services Committee (YSC)

Carla Sloan

- The Youth Services Committee meeting is Wednesday, April 11, which will vote on a final list of recommendations for fiscal year 2019 which will be shared with the board at the May meeting.
- Carla attended the School Committee meeting today for IMPACT with final planning for the three large events going on in April for substance prevention: A talk "Up in Smoke: What you need to Know about Teens and Vaping" by Andy Duran on April 11, targeted to middle school and high school parents; a second event about having a 'Safe Prom', April 17 at LIVE Café; and a program by Rosecrance for middle school parents on raising resilient and drug-free kids on April 25. A flyer from Rosecrance on vaping was distributed to the board.
- The HYPE (Healthy Youth Peer Educators) students at the high school did presentations against marijuana in 23 health classes.
- The Stall Street (back of the bathroom stalls) Journal flyer is very popular at the high school.

Senior Outreach Coordinator

Cathaleen Roach

- Cathaleen spoke about Celebrating Seniors All Year Long (CSAYL) and, in partnership with the library, the addition of Movie Friday, the third Friday of each month, beginning at noon, showing old classic films.
- Coffee Monday May 7 will have a representative from the FOSS Pool to talk about the benefits of swimming for seniors. Monday June 4 will be about the American Job Center on First Avenue with federal and local funding for job search and training for all, especially seniors.
- Saturday, May 5 at 2pm, film instructor Jason Sperb discusses Disney's vital contribution to the war effort in 'Rise & Shine: Disney and WWII'.
- Celebrating Seniors Week begins April 26. More River Forest residents were recognized this year in the '60 Over 60' including past board member, Mary O'Brien. The free Resource Guide lists the programs in the three suburbs and will be in the April 18 Wednesday Journal.
- Pickleball for seniors is up and running with our pickleball time at the Tennis and Fitness Centre in Oak Park, Thursdays at noon. Carla is the instructor.
- Carla and Cathaleen will represent the Township at the Meet and Match speed-volunteer program sponsored by the Community Foundation.
- LOSS meeting time is moving to 6pm.
- Carla spoke about the now trio of programs of Coffee Mondays, Connect with Tech and Movie Fridays of the Township/Library newly called 'Gather, Discover, Engage'.
- Carla talked about an earlier mentioned possibility of a Reach Out with seniors on your block program. A similar program, the Great Neighbors Program, through Little Brother-Friends of the Elderly in the city of Chicago, is interested in expanding its program to the suburbs. Arbor West is signing on and wishes the Townships to also get involved with the program. Safety and liability issues are being discussed around this program.

Supervisor's Comments

Carla Sloan.

- The administrator's meeting was held today, April 10. The Village and District #90 are trying to combine forces on Safe Routes to School which means more crossing guards and enhanced signage as well as safer walking and biking routes for the children.
- The Village is proceeding with the North Avenue TIF District. The public feedback on this is positive.
- The police are having another crime prevention meeting on April 25.
- The fire department with support from the Township are putting together zip-lock bag packets to distribute to the homeless.
- April 20 is scheduled to be another Walkout Day at the schools. There are safety concerns since the children may not return to school after the walk.
- April 21 is another Village recycling day by the Depot in Keystone Park.
- The TOCC Spring Conference is on May 16 and the Memorial Day Parade is on May 28. Township Topics Day is April 25 in Springfield and Carla will attend.
- Abby reminded the board of the Statement of Economic Interest due by May 1.
- Carla mentioned three pieces of important legislation pending in Springfield.

Approval of Bills

- Trustee Taubman made a motion to approve Community Bank Operating Fund bills as of March 31, 2018 totalling \$14,630.77 . It was seconded by Trustee Economos. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Taubman, Economos and Connolly. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Taubman made a motion to approve General Assistance bills as of March 31, 2018 in the amount of \$354.35. It was seconded by Trustee Connolly. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Taubman, Connolly and Economos. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Taubman made a motion to approve Community Bank Operating Fund bills as of April 30, 2018 totalling \$6,442.48. It was seconded by Trustee Connolly. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Taubman, Economos and Connolly. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

- A motion was made for approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement for Senior Services between Oak Park and River Forest Townships for fiscal year 2019-2020 by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Taubman. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Taubman and Connolly. Nays: None. Abstaining: Trustee Economos. The motion passed unanimously.
- Other grant requests were postponed to the next meeting.

Unfinished Business - None

A motion was made by Trustee Taubman and seconded by Trustee Connolly to go into Executive Session at 7:29 pm to discuss employment.

The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will be on Tuesday, May 15 at 6:00 pm. Trustee Taubman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37pm. Trustee Economos seconded, the motion was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Abby Schmelling, Clerk