

# **RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP**

## **Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 12, 2022**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees was called to order on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 by Supervisor Carla Sloan, at 7:22 pm. This was a meeting held both in person and electronically by Zoom.

**Roll called:** Supervisor Sloan, Trustees: Deana Herrman, Keith Strom, Karen Taubman and Helen Connolly. Also present: Clerk Vanessa Druckman, Dick Chappell, Mental Health Services Administrator Sarah Schwarting, and Senior Outreach Coordinator Betsy Kelly.

**Public Participation:** Matt Baron.

### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Strom to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2022 regular meeting. Roll call was taken. Yeas: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Strom, Connolly, Taubman, and Herrman. Nays: none. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Assessor**

**Pamela Kende**

- No report as Assessor Kende was absent.

### **Mental Health Services/General Assistance**

**Sarah Schwarting**

- Both the Mental Health and the Developmental Disabilities Consortiums plan to meet in person beginning in May.
- D90 is hosting a talk called “Supporting Resilience”, by Dr Doug Bolton, on Thurs April 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-7:30pm, in person, at Roosevelt Middle School.
- The OP Public Health Department will contract with Leading Healthy Futures consulting firm to assist with the completion of the IPLAN. The IPLAN resident survey will soon be ready for promotion. The Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township is also working on a survey which will be more focused on mental health, in which we are also participating.
- There is an alcohol recovery group meeting at the River Forest Community Center.
- The Progress Center for Independent Living will be hosting an informational table at the River Forest Jewel, Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm.
- The Way Back Inn and Action Recovery Team are sponsoring a Ride for Recovery starting at Grateful House on May 15th.
- The HUB team continues to meet regularly. The 211 mental health resource service is coming to Chicago, which is one of the last US metro centers to implement 211. Sarah and Supervisor Sloan will attend an upcoming 211 informational meeting, along with the

HUB team. Supervisor Sloan noted that, unlike the HUB, 211 will likely not be a referral service. It will only provide resources. She also noted that Housing Forward and New Moms are currently the main agencies that use the HUB as their referral system.

- Supervisor Sloan said that D90 has expressed the need for support in working with mental health and wellness issues among students, families, and staff. River Forest Township and NAMI are currently providing input to D90.
- Supervisor Sloan said that we continue to have one GA client, with GA being successfully administered by April Dugal at OPT.

### **Senior Outreach Coordinator**

**Betsy Kelly**

- Betsy sent out her monthly April RF email and weekly Community Connect email. Deputy Assessor Kathy Elliot provided more River Forest senior names for the distribution list.
- Coffee Monday Speakers were the Transportation Department from Senior Services as well as Oak Park River Forest Township. Coffee Mondays and Celebrating Seniors All Year Long are scheduled through August. Betsy distributed Coffee Monday flyers along with Housing Forum and Healthy Aging Flyers.
- Betsy is finalizing Housing Forum speakers, panelists, agenda and logistics. Everything is finally coming together, although it will be a jam-packed day. She is still confirming the best accessible location at Concordia.
- Betsy did a walk-through at Grace Lutheran for the Healthy Aging Fair. Pat Gulick will be retiring the week after the Healthy Aging Fair.
- The North West Housing Partnership will be at the Housing Forum and the Healthy Aging Fair talking about their programs, including their Capable Program that will be starting in RF and OP soon as part of the Home Repair Program, where an OT and nurse go out with the repair person to make sure the Senior's home is safe.
- Betsy is finalizing details for the ICE Packet event with River Forest Fire Department and The Sheridan. She ordered ICE packet materials and will have volunteers help her put them together.
- Betsy met briefly with one of our Circle of Friends Groups (Mather) and introduced people from other Circle Groups.
- Betsy and Supervisor Sloan are meeting with Lisa Scheiner from the Village about the Homesharing Program this Friday. Lisa Scheiner wants to make sure there are no issues with the program.
- Betsy worked on the Annual Report for the April Meeting.
- Betsy's Senior Outreach Coordinator position will now be a part-time employee (18 hrs/week); Betsy will also be a 4 hrs/week independent contractor as the Community Connect editor.
- Betsy will be emailing details about Celebrating Seniors Week to all the trustees.

## **Youth Services**

**Carla Sloan and Trustee Herrman**

- Trustee Herrman announced that the Youth Services Committee is reviewing its grant application process. They are considering instituting ceilings for grants and changing the process to make applications easier.
- Trustee Herrman also reported that during the April meeting of the Youth Services Committee there was a discussion around youth programming.
- Supervisor Sloan announced that the Youth Intervention Program is now called the Youth Engagement Program (YEP). The IGA is up for renewal in June. Youth Services and YEP staff are presenting to the D90, River Forest Public Library and the River Forest Park District boards. Supervisor Sloan is going to reach out to the Village of River Forest to request a presentation opportunity for the YEP.

## **Supervisor's Report**

**Carla Sloan**

- Supervisor Sloan attended the Township Topics Day in Springfield. Chris Welch was the keynote speaker at lunch. We got at least three shoutouts from Speaker Welch. Chris Welch came out very strongly for Townships and said, "As long as I am Speaker, Townships will not be consolidated." Supervisor Sloan said there is a short legislative session this year with a focus on budget and crime and not much anti-Township legislation. Township legislative advocate Taylor Anderson cautioned Townships that there has been high turnover in the legislature, and many new legislators who need educating about Townships.
- Supervisor Sloan attended the Administrators Meeting. D90 announced that summer school will be in-person this summer and that there will be no construction this summer. The River Forest Park District announced that the Board passed the Keystone Park plan and the next stage is the Development Review Board. Kiwanis will be taking over the hot dogs at the Memorial Day Parade. The Parade will start south of Division to keep Division clear for traffic flow and safety. The Village of River Forest announced that Lisa Scheiner is leaving at the end of April for Streamwood, the Town Center will fill and move around stores around, 5G is going into the Village, and two new police officers have been hired. River Forest Public Library said that the Summer Reading Kickoff Party will be held in-person and the Teen Librarian spot is open.
- The Townships of Cook County (TOCC) Supervisors Division meeting is next week, in-person at Barrington Township.
- Supervisor Sloan reminded everyone that Statements of Economic Interest (SEI) are due 5/1. She is attending the TOI webinar regarding the new SEI on April 14 at noon.
- Supervisor Sloan attended the CSS fundraiser. Opportunity Knocks also had their fundraiser. Thrive and Housing Forward events are upcoming.

## **Approval of Bills**

- A motion was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Taubman to approve River Forest Township Operating Fund bills as of March 31, 2022 in the amount of \$100,460.56.

Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees Herrman, Strom, Taubman, Connolly and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

- A motion was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Taubman to approve River Forest Township General Assistance Fund bills as of April 30, 2022 in the amount of \$12,222.12.

Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees Herrman, Strom, Connolly, Taubman, and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Unfinished Business**

- Vanessa Druckman provided an update of the website redesign. Supervisor Sloan, Trustee Strom, and Vanessa Druckman will be meeting next week to review page mock-ups and provide Hutchinson Associates feedback on icons to represent our different Township divisions.
- Trustee Taubman reported that the Collaboration Sub-Committee did not yet meet this month.
- Supervisor Sloan reported that a discussion on our Mission and Vision is postponed to a later meeting.

## **New Business**

- A motion was made by Trustee Strom and seconded by Trustee Connolly to approve an Older American Month 2022 Proclamation.

Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees Herrman, Strom, Connolly, Taubman and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

- Supervisor Sloan walked the group through the FY2023 Funding Recommendation for Senior Services.

A motion was made by Trustee Taubman and seconded by Trustee Connolly to approve the FY2023 Senior Services Budget Proposal for \$129,972.

Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees Herrman, Strom, Connolly, Taubman and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

- Supervisor Sloan walked the group through the FY2023 Funding Recommendation for Youth Services for \$93,841.

No vote was taken as the numbers need to be finalized.

- Supervisor Sloan walked the group through the FY2023 Funding Recommendation for Mental Health Services.

A motion was made by Trustee Taubman and seconded by Trustee Connolly to approve the FY2023 Mental Health Services Budget Proposal for \$178,765.

Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees Herrman, Strom, Connolly, Taubman and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

- A motion was made by Trustee Taubman and seconded by Trustee Connolly to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Home Repair Program for FY2023 and FY2024.

Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees Herrman, Strom, Connolly, Taubman, and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

- A motion was made by Trustee Taubman and seconded by Trustee Connolly to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Youth Engagement Program from 2022 to 2024 for \$19,814 in FY2022-2023 and \$20,408 in FY2023-2024.

Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees Herrman, Strom, Connolly, Taubman, and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

- A motion was made by Trustee Taubman and seconded by Trustee Connolly to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the River Forest Public Library for the Gather, Discover, Engage Program for \$700 and for the Celebrating Seniors All Year Long Program for \$3,000.

Roll was called. Ayes: Trustees Herrman, Strom, Connolly, Taubman, and Supervisor Sloan. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

- A motion to approve the Prevention Services Intergovernmental Agreement was table to a future meeting.

### **Announcement of the Next Regular Monthly Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will be on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 6 pm.

A motion was made by Trustee Connolly and seconded by Trustee Strom to adjourn the meeting at 8:14pm. Roll call was taken. The motion was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted, Vanessa Druckman, Clerk