

Supervisor Carla Sloan

Supervisor Carla Sloan has been a resident of River Forest since 1988. She and her husband, Ed, have raised their four now grown children here. Carla was elected Township Supervisor in 2013 and previously served as the Township Clerk for 3 years.

Supervisor Sloan's undergraduate education focused on government, including internships in Washington, DC and Albany, NY. During graduate school and professional career, Carla transitioned to business and the private sector, working in marketing, product development, financial management, and small non-profit management. Her volunteer experience includes extensive work in the developmental disabilities arena, inspired by her oldest daughter with autism. Serving as Township Clerk and Supervisor has re-connected Carla with her passion/experience in both the public sector and human services.

When not working at the Township, Carla enjoys family and friends, travel, reading, tennis and yoga.

Assessor Pamela Kende

Assessor Pamela Kende has been the River Forest Township Assessor since 2006 and officially starts her 4th term in January, 2018. She and her family have lived in River Forest since 2001, moving here from Oak Park. Pam has two grown children.

Assessor Kende is an avid sport enthusiast.

Trustee Helene Connolly

Trustee Helene Connolly has lived in River Forest for the past 30 years with her husband, Mark. They raised their three now grown children here and have a grandchild who lives in this town as well. Helene is an emergency physician who practiced most of her career at Mercy Hospital in Chicago and now works for Loyola, greatly improving her commute and work environment.

Trustee Connolly became involved with River Forest Township approximately 25 years ago when she was asked to join the River Forest Mental Health Committee. She accepted, feeling it was a good fit with her work in the emergency department. She assumed the position of chair and continued serving in that capacity until a vacancy opened up on the Township Board of Trustees in 2015. Because of Helene's lengthy relationship with the Township, she was asked to fill the vacancy, which she gladly accepted. She was elected to her first four-year term in April, 2017.

When Helene is not working, she likes to play tennis, travel and spend time with her sweet grandson, Mason.

Trustee Holly Economos

Information to follow.

Trustee Mark Kelty

Trustee Mark Kelty was elected Township Trustee in 2005. Mark grew up in River Forest and started his own landscaping business in 1984 with a small loan from his future father-in-law. He and his wife, Maureen, have lived in River Forest since 1986 and have raised four children. Mark has volunteered in our community for many years and has coached basketball, baseball and soccer. His input to the maintenance and improvements of the River Forest Civic Center Authority Building, as well as other special projects, have been especially valued by the Township.

When not working or volunteering, Trustee Kelty has enjoyed many years of supporting his children in all activities. He likes being outdoors, relaxing with family and friends at the Kelty summer home, traveling, old cars and new projects.

Trustee Karen Taubman

Trustee Karen Taubman has lived in River Forest since 1992. She and her husband, Eric, have three sons, who attended River Forest public schools and OPRF High School.

Karen has been involved with the Township since she was elected Clerk in 2013. Due to increased job responsibilities outside the Township during the day, she resigned as Clerk, in hopes of becoming a Township Trustee. When running for Trustee, Karen stated, "After sitting through 40+ meetings as the Clerk, I want to have a more active voice in the Township." She was elected to the Trustee position in April, 2017.

Trustee Taubman enjoys spending time with family and friends, travel, gardening and home projects; and staying active through walking, running, tennis, biking, and yoga.

Clerk Abby Schmelling

Clerk Abby Schmelling was appointed in the fall of 2016 and was elected for her first four-year term in April, 2017. She and her husband, Bill, both originally from Kenosha, WI, moved to River Forest 42 years ago with their son and daughter. Abby served on the District 90 Elementary Board of Education for over two terms. She was a past executive director of the Senior Citizens' Center of Oak Park and River Forest and then executive director of the Volunteer Center for almost twenty years. She also was a member and president of the board of Sarah's Inn. In addition, she has been a teacher of English as a Second Language at the ELS Language Center at Dominican University.

Clerk Schmelling enjoys genealogy and researching Chicago area home histories as well as collecting photography. She loves visiting Maryland and California to see her children and three grandsons. Abby is happy to once again serve her home community of River Forest.

5/17/17