



7210 Keystone Road, Richmond, IL, 60071
815.678.4532, ext. 8204 | mchenryconservation.org

MCHENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 13, 2020

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Semel called the October 13, 2020 meeting of the McHenry County Conservation Foundation to order at 6:34pm. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

2.0 INTRODUCTORY ROLL CALL

2.1 Roll Call

Brad Semel, President (Remote)
Kevin Ivers, Vice-President (Remote)
Martie Gorman, Director (Remote)
Dennis Dreher, Director (Remote)
Ray Eisbrener, Secretary (Remote)
Kim Becker, Treasurer (Remote)
Pamela Althoff, Director (Remote)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shawna Flavell, Development Director/Executive Director of McHenry County Conservation Foundation
Yvonne Semel, Administrator (Remote)
Elizabeth S. Kessler, Advisor (Remote)
Nancy Gonsiorek, CPA (Remote)
Dave Brandt, Liaison, McHenry County Conservation District (Remote)

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

None

2.2 Remote Participation

President Semel made a motion to allow the Board of Directors of the McHenry County Conservation Foundation to attend remotely through electronic participation. The basis for missing the meeting via electronic conference call is per the State of Illinois Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation - Executive Order 2020-07 & 2020-18 suspending requirements that members of the public body must be physically present. Secretary Eisbrener seconded the motion. A roll call vote gave the following results: President Brad Semel - yes, Vice-President Kevin Ivers - yes, Secretary Ray Eisbrener - yes, Treasurer Kim Becker - yes, Director Pamela Althoff - yes, Director Martie Gorman - yes, and Director Dennis Dreher - yes. Motion passed unanimously.

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments at this time. Shawna Flavell, Executive Director of McHenry County Conservation Foundation, was at Lost Valley Visitor Center.

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 4.1 August 11, 2020 - Regular Meeting - After reviewing the minutes of the August 11, 2020 Meeting, Secretary Eisbrener made the motion to accept the minutes, Director Gorman seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 4.2 September 21, 2020 - Special Call Meeting - After reviewing the minutes of the September 21, 2020 Special Call Meeting, President Semel made the motion to accept the minutes, Director Dreher seconded the motion. All were in favor.

5.0 OFFICER'S REPORTS

5.1 President's Report

- 5.1a Joint Meeting of the McHenry County Conservation District Board of Trustees and the McHenry County Conservation Foundation Board of Directors. President Semel provided a brief summary of the joint meeting held with the McHenry County Conservation Foundation and McHenry County Conservation District Board of Trustees.

5.2 Treasurer's Report

- 5.2a Financial Review
Treasurer Becker discussed the limited Profit and Loss activity for August. She discussed the breakdown of donations. She also summed up the Balance Sheet totals as of September 30, 2020. There were no questions.
- 5.2b Current Account Activity. A CD held at Blackhawk Bank recently reached maturity. It was not allowed to rollover as there will be a number of large expenses to cover in the coming months that will require liquid funds.

6.0 DIRECTOR AND BOARD LIASION REPORTS

- 6.1 McHenry County Conservation District Report: District Trustee Dave Brandt provided an update on significant District activities.

7.0 BOARD BUSINESS

- 7.1 Ratifying Prior Authorization of the Execution of a Land Preservation Project and Gift Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding with McHenry County Conservation Foundation, McHenry County Conservation District, and James and Bonnie Leahy. President Semel turned this discussion over to Executive Director Flavell. The Board was asked to ratify the decision to accept the mutual agreement that would transfer and gift land to the District and authorize a restricted gift to the Foundation. President Semel asked if there were any further questions about this transaction. There were none. President Semel made the motion to approve the authorization of the execution of the land preservation project, gift agreement, and Memorandum of Understanding with McHenry County Conservation Foundation, McHenry County Conservation District, and James and Bonnie Leahy. Vice-President Ivers seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 7.2 Ratifying Prior Authorization of the Execution of a Grant Agreement with McHenry County Conservation Foundation and the Community Foundation of McHenry County. President Semel asked Executive Director Flavell to further detail the August 2020 grant received from The Community Foundation for McHenry County. The Grant Agreement form and the terms and conditions were discussed. President Semel made

the motion to ratify prior authorization of the execution of a grant agreement with McHenry County Conservation Foundation and the Community Foundation of McHenry County in the amount of \$5,300. Director Althoff seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- 7.3 Consideration to Provisionally Adopt the Chicago Community Trust's Diversity Statement. President Semel explained the role of the Chicago Community Trust and its oversight of the Community Foundation of McHenry County. Chicago Community Trust is requesting that organizations that they fund recognize and adopt a statement on the need for diversity. President Semel made the motion to provisionally adopt the Chicago Community Trust's Diversity Statement, Treasurer Becker seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 7.4 Acceptance of FY 2020 Financial Statements (Unaudited) for the Year Ended June 30, 2020. President Semel had requested that 7.4 and 7.5 be moved earlier in the meeting under the President's report so that Nancy Gonsiorek, CPA, LLC was not required to attend the entire meeting. It was brought to the Board's attention that a full audit would be required for Fiscal Year 2020 due to the level of donations secured. President Semel made the motion to table the action until a full audit is complete. Director Althoff seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 7.5 Acceptance of FY 2020 Federal form 990 and FY 2020 Illinois form AG990-IL. Ms. Gonsiorek indicated that the FY 2020 Illinois form AG990-IL would not be submitted until after the audit was completed. President Semel made the motion to accept the FY 2020 Federal form 990 and FY 2020 Illinois form AG990-IL as prepared, Treasurer Becker seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 7.6 Consideration to Increase Support for Bog Observation Pier at Glacial Park from \$15,000 to \$20,235. The previously authorized project is complete and additional costs were incurred due to ADA-accessibility requirements. President Semel made the motion for the Foundation to complete full support for the bog observation pier at Glacial Park by adding \$10,235 for completion costs of this project. Director Gorman seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 7.7 Consideration to Support from Corn to Compass Plants: Glacial Park Restoration in an amount not to exceed \$73,920. President Semel made the motion to support the Corn to Compass Plants: Glacial Park Restoration, not to exceed \$73,920.00, Director Dreher seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 7.8 Consideration to Support Boger Bog Restoration in an amount not to exceed \$16,500.00. Executive Director Flavell noted this is just to support Phase 1 of the project. Vice-President Ivers made the motion to support Boger Bog Restoration not to exceed \$16,500.00 for Phase 1 engineering. Director Althoff seconded the motion. All were in favor. President Semel abstained.
- 7.9 Consideration to Support Public Seed Collection Area in an amount not to exceed \$10,000. President Semel made the motion to support the public seed collection area in an amount not to exceed \$10,000. Director Dreher seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 7.10 Consideration to Support 50th Anniversary Commemorative Book in an amount not to exceed \$11,000. President Semel asked Advisor Kessler to discuss details of this book. The District's 50 year anniversary will be celebrated in 2021. President Semel made

the motion to support the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Book in an amount not to exceed \$11,000. Secretary Eisbrener seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- 7.11 Consideration to Support Checkerspot Reintroduction in an amount not to exceed \$10,000. President Semel described this species of butterfly and the host plant it needs to successfully reproduce. It was pointed out that the above amount does not include the administrative 10%, so the amount was amended to \$11,000. President Semel made the motion to support the Checkerspot Reintroduction project in an amount not to exceed \$11,000. Director Dreher seconded the motion. All were in favor.

8.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

8.1 Strategic Plan Implementation

8.1a FY 2021 Fundraising Progress

Executive Director Flavell discussed fundraising progress. There has been a 59% increase overall in the past year. Unrestricted giving had an over 700% increase from last year.

8.1b FY 2021 Q1 Budget Review

Executive Director Flavell discussed the Budget Review. There was a comparison between what was budgeted and what was spent. Legal fees are much higher, but were connected to the Marengo Ridge acquisition. President Semel commented that the Marengo Ridge legal fees were covered by a donor.

8.1c FY 2021 Q1 Overall Progress Review

Document shared showing where we are in the Strategic Plan progress

8.2 District Project Updates

Discussed under 7.0

9.0 ADDITIONAL BOARD BUSINESS

9.1 Naming of Public Seed Collection Area

Advisor Kessler talked about naming the seed collection area after the land donors. President Semel agreed.

9.2 *Join the Journey* Donor Wall Update

No further discussion at this time.

9.3 Prospect Letter

Executive Director Flavell asked for Board feedback on the draft prospect.

9.4 Draft Gift Agreement

No further discussion given time constraints.

10.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Semel made the motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Exception 2C6 (purchase or lease of property) of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1 et. seq.). Director Dreher seconded the motion. A roll call vote gave the following results: President Brad Semel - yes, Vice-President Kevin Ivers - yes, Secretary Ray Eisbrener - yes, Treasurer Kim Becker - yes, Director Pamela Althoff - yes, Director Martie Gorman - yes, and Director Dennis Dreher - yes. Motion passed unanimously.
Regular session was left at 9:03pm.

11.0 RECONVENE

At 9:27 pm the Board came out of Executive Session and reconvened at 9:29 pm by President Semel on the evening of October 13, 2020 at Lost Valley Visitor Center, 7210 Keystone Road, Richmond, IL and via Zoom conference services. Director Althoff did not return.

11.1 Roll Call

President Brad Semel (Remote)
Vice-President Kevin Ivers (Remote)
Secretary Ray Eisbrener (Remote)
Treasurer Kim Becker (Remote)
Director Martie Gorman (Remote)
Director Dennis Dreher (Remote)

Others Present:

Shawna Flavell, Director of Development/Executive Director of McHenry County Conservation Foundation
Advisor Elizabeth Kessler, Advisor/Executive Director of McHenry County Conservation District (Remote)
Dave Brandt, Liaison/Trustee, McHenry County Conservation District (Remote)

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

President Semel asked if there was any other business to discuss. There being none, President Semel made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Dreher seconded the motion. A roll call vote gave the following results: Semel - yes, Ivers-yes, Gorman-yes, Dreher-yes, Eisbrener-yes, Becker-yes, Althoff-yes.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at Lost Valley Visitor Center at 6:30pm. (if needed)

Respectfully submitted,


Ray Eisbrener, Secretary