

League of Women Voters

**Kane County Government
Monitoring Committee Report**

MEETING: Kane County Forest Preserve

DATE: Tuesday, January 9, 2007 REPORTING: BJ Zaha

ATTENDING: Hoscheit, Quinlan, Meyers, Fahy, de la Isla, Greviskes, Holmes, Hurlbut, Jones, Kenyon, Kissane, Kunkel, Leonberger, Lewis, Neuberger, Noerini, Shoemaker, Tredup, Wojnicki, and Wolfe _____

ABSENT: Carlson, Davoust, Kudlicki, McConnauhay, R., Mitchell, Van Cleave, and Wyatt _____

WAS PRESS IN ATTENDANCE: YES X NO _____

DID PRESS COVER SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: YES X NO _____

SUMMARY OF MEETING: Approval of minutes from previous meeting was unanimous. Unanimously approved purchase of new replacement vehicle for Forest Preserve Police as the previous one had been totaled in an accident; insurance will defray some of the cost. Unanimously approved publication of Master Plan for \$16,000 proposal, whereas \$20,000 had originally been budgeted. And, unanimously approved list of depository facilities, namely all banks in Kane County. Approved referendum item for the General Election in 2007 which would ask for \$85 million in bond sales over 20 years.

MOST CRITICAL ISSUES(S): The referendum for land acquisition funding would increase real estate taxes \$24 per year on a home appraised at \$230,500. The obvious advantages of expanding open areas as the County develops further must be weighed against the impact of yet another increase in property taxes, particularly of issue for low and moderate income home owners, seniors, and those of low and moderate income who wish to purchase their first home. In and of itself, an increase of \$24 per year may not be a critical issue, however, coupled with concurrent school district referendums, it could diminish the possibility of home ownership or maintaining home ownership for seniors and those of low or moderate incomes.

COMMENTS/NOTES: Public officials are not allowed to endorse or dissuade voters on any referendum issues. Kane County Board Members can only provide unbiased fact sheets on to those seeking additional information on any referendum issue.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(SNEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2007 9:00 a.m