

## **League of Women Voters**

### **Kane County Government Monitoring Report**

MEETING: [Forest Preserve Utilization Committee](#)

DATE: September 25, 2008      REPORTING: D Bakk

Members: Chairman Davoust, Commissioners: Frasz, Kenyon, Leonberger, Shoemaker, Wojnicki, Kissane: Absent: Fahy, Greviskes, Wolfe  
President: John Hoeschit

PRESS IN ATTENDANCE: Examiner

#### SUMMARY OF MEETING:

- **Bids and Proposals: Presentation of bids for the construction and installation of restroom facilities at Burnidge/Paul Wolff and Grunwald Farms Forest Preserves;** Lowest qualified bidder Hargrave Builders of South Elgin. Total \$293,200.00 available in Planning and Development Land Area Development. Kenyon just wanted to comment he was happy they were the low bid because they do such a nice job. **Prairie restoration seed:** Approval of bid to purchase seed to continue prairie establishment at Muirhead Springs FP. Five bids received. Martenson Turf Products, Inc., Waterman, IL at \$60,725.00. **Bids for tree thinning at Pingree Grove FP.** Three vendors replied. Midwest Forsetree, East Dundee, IL \$66,390.00. **Request to purchase Caterpillar Compact Track Loader CAT 299C (\$65,000) and Catepillar 308D (\$119,410.00) Excavator thru state of IL-Kane County joint purchasing agreement.** All passed committee.
- **New or Unfinished business:** Friends of Fabyan and Geneva Garden Club request to install recognition plaques at Fabyan Forest Preserve; Fall Burn Schedule Presentation.
- **Other Comments:** Kenyon requested they burn a specific forest preserve. Reply was it was difficult to get to all of the forest preserves because of staff and time issues. Kenyon suggested high schoolers should go over there with cigarettes. Kenyon also complained that used equipment to be put on sale from the County be cleaned up and that it currently looked terrible. Rehab on stadium continues--with no cost-overs yet. National Public Lands Day will take place at Johnson Mound Sat. from 10 to 1 pm.; 200 5 gallon oak tress to be planted.

**CRITICAL ISSUES: Transparency.** The observer went to the Forest Preserve website to download the agenda. Only last month's agenda was available. A discussion was held following the meeting with Executive Director and Mr. Quillin who is responsible for this. Said that they sent it to IT and they had not put it on. I suggested that they also upload their agenda packets. The response from Mr. Quillin: "It is available here. We

don't have time to do that. We are not part of the other county departments who do have enough staff to do this." One can only get the info handed out at these meetings by going to a 9 a.m. meeting. Perhaps they would send it if asked, but they obviously are not eager to do so.

**FUTURE ACTION:** The League should respond to this lack of cooperation on the Forest Preserve to provide easy access to public documents and will explore further avenues to have them upload to website. League should continue to have representatives at public meetings whether they be at the county or local levels.

**NEXT MEETING:** OCTOBER 30, 2008