

Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance
http://www.pdha.org
1st Quarter Meeting Minutes
Lincoln Center – Room 503
March 21, 2007

Attendance: Jane Amorosi, Laurel Bowen, James Cavallo, Aspasia Colias, Lee Forsythe, Gordon Goodman, Ihor Hlohowskyj, Matt LeCren, Ken Lerner, Bill Runyon, Dave Schulz, Jerry Yoksoulian (Quorum present) **Absent:** Chris Saricks, Charley Smart **Guests:** Shannon Forsythe

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cavallo at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of March 17, 2007 Special Meeting minutes: Minutes were approved with correction noted. Motion passed to clarify correction regarding \$750 donation to Park District programs is: authorized **up to** \$750 for **one or both** programs if monies become available independent of each other.”

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Gordon Goodman reported beginning balance (as of 2/21/2007) = \$4,875.53. Income was \$100 (1 donations). Expenditures: 0. Ending Balance as of 3/19/2007 = \$4,990.66. Checking Balance \$1,427.94 with \$3,562.72 CD maturing 7/30/2007 at Community Bank of DG. New 1846 Blodgett House on the Move Account: “1846 Blodgett House” acct balance: \$450.00 Treasurer's report was approved.

Lyman Woods/Belmont Prairie: S. Forsythe reported that Lyman Woods is quite muddy due to wet weather. There is a burn planned for the Prairie at the end of March. Project Site Area I: Maintenance and monitoring will continue this growing season. Project Site Area II: The streambanks will be planted and regular maintenance will begin this spring. Project Site Area III: Phases I and II (selective clearing and streambank and woodland restoration) will be going out to bid in the near future. Upcoming volunteer workdays will be held at Lyman Woods on April 14, 28, and May 5. Please register with Pat Semple at (630) 963-1304. *Lyman Woods Words*, the Natural Areas e-newsletter can be downloaded from the website, and hard copies are available at the Interpretive Center. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please let Shannon know. 8 summer camps will be offered this year, and Shannon is looking for teen volunteers to assist the camp counselor. Trivia: 250-300 people have used Lyman Woods programs through the winter (not counting walkers and joggers). Can Downers Grove be the only town in DuPage County with a Forest Preserve within Village limits? (Lyman Woods, Maple Grove, and Belmont Prairie)

Woodsfest (May 6 from 1-4 pm): PDHA presentation to be created ahead on April 18. Volunteers to staff the table on May 6 at the Interpretive Center from 10 am – 4 pm include Aspasia, Bill, Jane, Jim, Laurie, and Matt. Jim is creating a brochure. Activities and programs will include a live raptor presentation from Willowbrook Wildlife Center, a story teller at the campfire ring, a guided trail hikes, and children's crafts and games.

Wetlands Education and Little Sprouts: S. Forsythe stated that St. Mary's has applied for a grant for the Little Sprouts program. If the full amount is granted, we will not be held to our matching program contingency. District 58 has applied to Grove Foundation for assistance. Stay tuned for the results.

Cool Cities Program: D. Schulz presented advocacy program for PDHA support. Chicago and six DuPage Villages are members. The U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement is designed to influence decision making at local, state and national levels (www.sierraclub.org/coolcities). Motion to submit global warming letter from PDHA board to Village Council now, verbally at the April 3 Council meeting, and again in writing to the Council following the April 17 election, and to the Environmental Commission at their April meeting passed. Motion to circulate an advisory global warming petition, possibly at Woodsfest, passed. J. Cavallo will edit and sign letter on behalf of the PDHA board. Petition to be submitted at later date.

Blodgett House at 812 Randall – Gordon reported that the “1846 Blodgett House on the Move” (“1846”) is planning a fundraiser. Alternative rock band Gin Blossoms to perform in cooperation with the Rotary Club at their beer tent on Thursday, June 21 (\$10 advance, \$15 at gate). Expect the “1846” checking account will soon be divested from PDHA. Jenner & Block is setting up “1846” as a non-profit 501(c)3. Gordon addressed the DG Park Board on Feb 15 & the Village Council on Feb 20. There may be a potential property swap by Park District to retain ownership of historic home with trade of homesite on Curtiss. Potential for such option is still in discussion phase. Charley Smart and Gordon Goodman are point persons.

Coalition for Managed Redevelopment and Affordable Housing: K. Lerner attended the hearings held by Architectural Design Review Board (ADRB) on Feb 22 & 24 in support of the Historic Preservation ordinance. The ADRB has forwarded the ordinance to Village Council with recommendation to be addressed on Apr 10 or 24. Now the Coalition is seeking support with attendance of individuals interested in applying for landmarking of historic homes. Expect the unfinished house at 4500 Bryan Place to be dismantled soon. Charley Smart, Gordon Goodman and Ken Lerner are PDHA point persons. Coalition meets Mar 22 at 7 pm.

White/Computer/Electronic Recycling: J. Cavallo has discovered SSI – Supply-Chain Services, Inc., a facility in Lombard (250 W. North Avenue @ Main St (630.629.9344) that accepts such toxic material (for a price). Suggestion to make this an advocacy issue for DuPage as a whole, or to include as part of Downers Grove garbage contract was encouraged. Discussion tabled until next meeting. www.supply-chainservices.com

Mark Your Calendar:

DG Environmental Concerns Commission Meetings: 2nd Thursday, Public Works at 7 p.m.

Village Council: Meets every Tuesday at Village Hall: 6:30 p.m.

Park District: Meets first (Lincoln Center) and third (Village Hall) Thursday: 7 p.m.

Arbor Day – April 28, 2007

Highway Clean-up Dates: April 21, June 23, Aug 25, Oct 13

Lyman Woods Woodsfest – Sunday, May 6 – 1 to 4 p.m. Interpretive Center

Lyman Woods Workdays - April 14, 28, and May 5.

Next PDHA Meeting: Wed., _____, 2007, 7:00 p.m. in Lincoln Center Room 202

Websites of Interest: www.pdha.org www.greenfund.com
www.environmentaldefense.org www.ilenviro.org
www.earthshare.org www.PRESERVEtheDCFPD@aol.com
www.preservationofourforests.org www.dgcmr.org
www.1846BlodgettHouse.org

Meeting adjourned: 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Laurel Q. Bowen, Secretary