

Pierce Downer's Heritage Alliance
<http://www.pdha.org>
Special Meeting Minutes
Lincoln Center – Room 503
January 25, 2006

Attendance: Jane Amorosi, Laurel Bowen, James Cavallo, Lee Forsythe, Gordon Goodman, Ihor Hlohowskyj, Ken Lerner, Bill Runyon, Chris Saricks, Charley Smart, Jerry Yoksoulion (Quorum present) **Absent:** Aspasia Colias, Matt LeCren, Dave Schulz, **Guests:** Jo Ellen Siddens, Steward, Belmont Prairie and past manager at DuPage Forest Preserve

Meeting called to order by Chairman James Cavallo at 7:10 p.m.

Approval of November 30, 2005 Annual Meeting minutes: The minutes were approved with changes.

Secretary's Report: Please invite a guest to our meetings. If able, participate in Village via meetings and letters to papers. Our next meeting is March 22, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., Lincoln Center Room 503.

Treasurer's Report: Beginning Balance (as of 12/01/2005) = \$3,469.55. Income was \$955 (9 donations). Expenditures: \$11.47) Ending Balance = \$4,413.08 (as of 1/22/06) Treasurer's report was approved as presented. \$2500 CD Rollover was discussed and will occur this month.

Belmont Prairie: The management plan for Belmont Prairie buffer area has not been recently updated. This updating is not moving forward at present, according to Steve Byers of Illinois Nature Preserve Commission. Jo Ellen & Ihor agreed to serve as point people and research further. Development impact issues exist with BNSF Underpass, proposed RR station at Walnut St, buffer development along Ogden and Walnut and Park District potential pool.

Lyman Woods – Management will be headed up as of March 1, 2006 by Shannon Forsythe, newly hired Manager Natural Areas & Interpretive Services, who has B.S. Biology, MS Habitat Restoration. She previously worked at Museum of Science and Industry. Cooperation is critical between Park District, Village and Forest Preserve for management, thereby resulting in grant applications and other financial support for operational expenses. Discussion ensued regarding other less costly/less tree loss methods of streambank stabilization (2006-07 capital budget \$150,000). Jim Cavallo, Jane Amorosi (Park District), Gordon and Jo Ellen (Forest Preserve) will head up this area of concern. Review of master plans of Lyman Woods to coordinate volunteer projects with high school students and community groups and clubs is tabled until next meeting

Cooperation with Hospital and Wellness Center to protect Lyman Woods is also important. Jack Schaefer, Wanda Sadoughi will meet with Gordon on Jan 31, 2006 at 11 a.m. to discuss Hospital plans to be more environmentally proactive in tree planting and management of buffer area to protect native plants/trees and prevent erosion, and to help control invasive species.

Bill Runyon was recognized for his consistent and longtime contribution to work days at Lyman Woods to clear invasive species.

Updating Bylaws: Decision making outside of meetings on an as-needed basis only was discussed. K. Lerner will research addendum to bylaws for discussion at next meeting. Bylaws will be placed on website.

Alternative Transportation – Discussion on bikeways, electric vehicles. Chris will head up reporting issues & activism here.

Highway Clean-up Dates: March 25, May 20, August 26, October 21. Meet at 33rd & Highland Avenues

Meeting adjourned: 9:35 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar:

DG Environmental Commission Meeting: 2nd Tuesday, 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.

Websites of Interest:

www.pdha.org

www.environmentaldefense.org

www.earthshare.org

www.downersgrovewatch.org

www.dgcmr.org

www.empowerdgtaxpayers.com

www.greenfund.com

www.ilenviro.org

www.PRESERVEtheDCFPD@aol.com

www.preservationofourforests.org

www.dgcadvocates.org

www.dginformationnetwork.org

Park Board Meeting: Thursday, February 2 at Lincoln Ctr and Feb 16, 2005 at Village Hall at 7 p.m.

DG Environmental Commission Meeting: February 9, Public Works at 7 p.m.

PDHA Board Meeting Wed., March 22, 2006, 7:00 p.m. in Lincoln Center Room 503

PDHA Highland Ave Clean-up: March 25, 2006

Respectfully Submitted: Laurel Q. Bowen