

Forest Preserver Cook County Board

May 6, 2008

All commissioners present. Meeting opened about 10.25am.

This short meeting had an extremely small crowd. We should all have been there. It's a great way to really see and get to know the commissioners.

The meeting opened when Comm. Tony Peraica, Chairman of the Zoological Committee, presented a resolution along with the entire commission honoring Mena Boulanger.

Retiring Vice President of Governmental Affairs, Mena Boulanger was honored for her 18 years of dedicated service to the Brookfield Zoo. All the commissioners spoke of positive encounters with Mena at the zoo and also in her garden in Oak Park.

Mena has worked closely, for a decade, with state legislators and Forest Preserve staff to secure a \$100 million bond from the state that has been used for significant improvements at the Zoo and Chicago Botanical Gardens.

Zoo Director, Dr. Stuart Strahl complimented Ms. Boulanger for her fund raising accomplishments and her work with the staff, on the tours, out reach, family programs, library and lecture series and more.

Comm. Peter Silvestri's resolution honored Miss Kelly Sorrentino 8th grader at St. Celestin Roman Catholic School for her design for the Friends of the Park Earth Day tee shirt contest.

Comm. Michael Quigley's resolutions regarding a Bird-Friendly pilot program, an amendment to the Green Building ordinance, and amendment to the Tree Mitigation Funds were all referred to the Capital Development Committee

Field Museum's research found that turning off lights reduces bird collision deaths by 83%.

The financial report was deemed incorrect and CFO Marlo Kemp will correct it.

Mary Ann Tate
May 13, 2008