PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building
667 Ware Road – Conference Room A
Woodstock, IL 60098

Minutes of Thursday, May 19, 2005

Ann Gilman, Chairman

Jim Heisler	Ann Kate
Peter Merkel	Marc Munaretto
Virginia Peschke	Barbara Wheeler

Chairman Gilman called the Planning and Development Committee meeting to order at 8:18 a.m. The following members were present: Ann Gilman, Ann Kate, Jim Heisler, Marc Munaretto and Pete Merkel. Barbara Wheeler arrived at 8:40 a.m. Virginia Peschke was absent. Also in attendance: Planning and Development Department staff members; Ken Koehler, County Board Chairman; candidates for appointment to the McHenry County Conservation District Board; representatives from the Fire Chief Association; representatives from the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission; interested public; and press.

MINUTE APPROVAL
Mr. Heisler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Munaretto, to approve the regular session minutes of the Planning and Development Committee meeting of May 5, 2005. The minutes were approved as presented with a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
A representative from the Huntley Fire Chief Association addressed the Committee asking for assistance in getting cooperation from the Planning and Development Department to provide them with permit application information, including name of applicant, address, phone number and location of proposed building site so they can notify these individuals about their code requiring the installation of sprinkler systems in all new single family homes. He stated that they are only requesting basic information and suggested that at the time of the application the applicant be requested to sign a ledger providing the above mentioned information. This information would then be picked-up by a representative from the Fire Chief Association. Chairman Gilman stated that she felt the P & D Department would be willing to include a pamphlet or brochure in the application packet. Ms. Ehardt noted that this information is available to anyone wishing to go through the files, but felt to ask staff to initiate another procedure would be too time consuming and cost prohibitive. She also raised concern that if someone does not sign the ledger the department could be held responsible. She agreed that an informational pamphlet would be the best way to present this information to applicants. Mr. Munaretto noted that it is also the responsibility of the architect to make sure all local codes are followed. Chairman Gilman stated she would meet with Ms. Ehardt to discuss this further and try to work something out that would be agreeable to all parties.

PRESENTATION
None.

SUBDIVISIONS
None.

OLD BUSINESS
None.

NEW BUSINESS
MCCD Interviews: The following applicants for appointment to the McHenry County Conservation District Board of Trustees were interviewed by the Committee: James Albright; Steven Rietsel; Steven Thompson; Richard Adams; Preston Rea; and David Lague.

Boone Creek Watershed – groundwater protection: Mr. John Nelson from the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, reported that a designation of Class III Special Resource Groundwater has been established by the

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for the Boone Creek Fen. There are only four such designations in the State of Illinois and McHenry County has two (Parker Fen Nature Preserve and the Boone Creek Fen), with the other two located in southern Illinois. This designation can only be established for groundwater systems supporting nature preserves or for unique groundwater systems or for groundwater that is vital for a particularly sensitive ecological system. The newly designated Class III Boone Creek Fen encompasses 5.04 square miles and falls within portions of the Village of Bull Valley, the City of Woodstock and unincorporated McHenry County. The Boone Creek Fen is a recharge area for groundwater supplying the nature preserves. The Committee was asked to assist in preserving this ecological area. Chairman Gilman suggested to Mr. Nelson that he facilitate a meeting with County Board Chairman Koehler, Mr. McNulty, Health Department Administrator, Sue Ehardt, Director of Planning and Development, Mayor Sager from the City of Woodstock and Mr. Miller, President of the Village of Bull Valley to discuss what can be done legally to protect this sensitive area.

Board of Building Code Appeals Vacancies – Mark Gibson; Ralph Schmitt: Ms. Ehardt reported that she has received a letter of resignation from Mr. Althoff for his membership on the Building Code Board of Appeals. She stated that membership on this Board has very specific requirements. She recommended Mark Gibson, owner of MG Mechanical fill this vacancy. She went on to recommend the reappointment of Ralph Schmidt to this Board. Mr. Munaretto made a motion, seconded by Mr. Heisler, to recommend the County Board approve a Resolution appointing Mark Gibson to the Board of Building Code Appeals and reappointing Ralph Schmidt to said Board. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of all ayes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Munaretto made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, to enter executive session to discuss land acquisition and review executive session minutes. The motion carried with a roll call vote of all ayes (Kate, Heisler, Wheeler, Merkel, Munaretto and Gilman).

Mr. Munaretto made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kate, to return to open session. The motion carried with a roll call vote of all ayes (Kate, Heisler, Wheeler, Merkel, Munaretto and Gilman).

The Committee was in executive session from 9:50 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.

REGULAR SESSION CONTINUED

Ms. Kate made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, to approve the executive session minutes as presented and reviewed in executive session for State's Attorney's review, but not for release. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of all ayes.

The Committee discussed the candidates who were interviewed for the appointment to the McHenry County Conservation District Board. Members were impressed with all candidates and agreed all offered good ideas and were well informed and knowledgeable. After a discussion, Ms. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kate, to recommend the County Board appoint David Lague to the McHenry County Conservation Board for a term to begin on 7/1/05 and expire on 6/30/10. The motion carried with all members present voting.

Chairman Gilman raised the idea of recommending approval of the appointments for the two McHenry County Conservation District Board vacancies that will occur on June 30, 2006. She stated she would like to select two of the individuals that were interview today for those appointments. Members discussed this possibility and suggested a State's Attorney's opinion be requested to see if making these appointments a year in advance would be legal. Mr. Munaretto made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, to recommend the County Board approve the appointment of Steven Thompson to the McHenry County Conservation District Board for a term to begin on 7/1/06 and expire on 6/30/11, subject to the State's Attorney's opinion. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of all ayes. Ms. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kate, to recommend the County Board approve the appointment of Preston Rea to the McHenry County Conservation District Board for a term to begin on 7/1/06 and

expire on 6/30/11, subject to the State's Attorney's opinion. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of all ayes. These recommendations will not be sent to the County Board until a final opinion is received from the State's Attorney.

REPORTS
Stormwater – Staff is catching up on the files
NIPC – No report
MCCD – No report
Planning Commission – No report

MISCELLANEOUS
Chairman Gilman asked that the McHenry County Conservation District make a presentation on the land acquisition to the full County Board on June 7, 2005. In addition, the Committee asked that a Resolution to approve an agreement between the County, Harris Trust and Par Development be included on the June 7, 2005 County Board agenda under new and unfinished business.

ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Heisler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kate, to adjourn at 11:30 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:
Approve Resolution appointing David Lague to the McHenry County Conservation District Board
Approve Resolution appointing Mark Gibson and Ralph Schmidt to the Building Code Board of Appeals

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