

TO: DEER PARK VILLAGE BOARD
FROM: PAT WINKELMAN/VEHE FARM FOUNDATION
SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT/SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF ACTION ITEMS
DATE: MARCH 2010

ACTION ITEM: Requesting Village approval to waive the rental fee for Vehe Farm Foundation/Leave No Child Inside Consortium Event May 4, 2010, as requested by the attached waiver form.

The Vehe Farm Foundation is requesting a rental fee waiver for a Leave No Child Inside Consortium meeting being held in the Vehe Barn main function space on May 4, 2010. A completed waiver form has been submitted to the Village Office and also is attached. This event is to celebrate the completion of the Consortium's implementation of its comprehensive plan and to plan the future of the Consortium and/or the LNCI initiative as it relates to the greater Barrington, Deer Park, and Lake Zurich area. Approximately 45 attendees are anticipated. The Village of Deer Park is a member of the Consortium and represented by Trustee Pratscher. It would be most appreciated if this waiver could be granted as it will free up funds for planned community communications regarding the LNCI initiative.

ACTION ITEM: Decision requested of the Village of Deer Park to continue to hold on perpetual loan the Vehe Farmstead charcoal/ink drawing owned by Harold Vehe of Nevada and, if approved, the Village should execute a perpetual loan agreement to formalize the agreement.

Harold Vehe is a great-cousin of Ed Vehe (last Vehe to own Vehe Farm). In 2007, Harold Vehe placed on perpetual loan to the Village of Deer Park the drawing of the Vehe farmstead circa 1870's. This drawing hangs over the barn's main staircase. It is believed the drawing is from that period. Currently the attached letter is the basis of the perpetual loan agreement.

Harold Vehe has indicated that he wishes the perpetual loan agreement to continue. With the dissolution of the Vehe Farm Foundation, it is necessary for an updated document to be created formalizing the perpetual loan agreement between Harold Vehe and the Village of Deer Park. The agreement should provide that, if at any time the drawing is to be returned to Harold Vehe, the Village will pay for the packaging, shipping, and insurance costs, and take all steps necessary to ensure its safe delivery.

The Vehe Farm Foundation will act as a liaison until its dissolution.

ACTION ITEM: Decision requested of the Village of Deer Park to retain ownership of the two portraits of the Hannaly brothers. If no longer interested, does the Village wish the Foundation to ask Carl Hannaly, a great nephew of the brothers, whether he or other members of the Hannaly family would like the gift of the portraits returned? If a return of the gift is to be made, the Village will pay for the packaging, shipping and insurance costs, and take all steps necessary to ensure the portraits' safe delivery.

The portraits were in the Vehe farmhouse at the time the Village acquired the farm and have since been reframed for preservation purposes. If the Village wishes an alternative owner for them to be found, the Foundation will make every effort, prior to the Foundation's dissolution, to identify a new owner (e.g., historical society or area museum) that is satisfactory to the Village.

ACTION ITEM: Decision requested of the Village of Deer Park to continue to hold on perpetual loan the photographic montage that is owned by Teri Bridge and on display in the barn's education/ museum space. If so, Teri Bridge considers the attached letter to be sufficient documentation of the continuing agreement between herself and the Village.

ACTION ITEM: Decision requested for the Village of Deer Park to take the actions requested by the Leave No Child Inside Consortium of the Greater Barrington, Deer Park, and Lake Zurich area as described below.

As part of its comprehensive plan, the Consortium's government sub-group (which includes Trustee Pratscher and a number of BACOG Executive Board members) identified three strategic actions it is asking each BACOG member government to take. To this end, during BACOG's February 23, 2010 Executive Board meeting, the LNCI Consortium presented the following requests and estimated costs.

REQUESTS

- **Resolution:** Declare June 2010 as Leave No Child Inside Month, and again announce support for the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights created by Chicago Wilderness. (Deer Park took these actions with respect to June 2009.)
- **Newsletter mailings:** As part of one of its regular village resident newsletter mailings, distribute the Consortium's community flyer. (Please see the attached Consortium flyer.)
- **Nature trail/LNCI signage:** Designate one nature trail or walking path as a Leave No Child Inside trail and install signage declaring it as such. (Either Trustee Pratscher or Evans will present a sample of the sign face.)

COSTS/PROCESS

- **Resolution:** BACOG and the Consortium will be coordinating the drafting of the resolution, which we believe will be presented to BACOG's Executive Board in its March meeting. Please see the attached Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights flyer created by Chicago Wilderness. There are no direct costs.
- **Newsletter mailings:** Each Village is being asked to pay for the flyers it uses. Production costs will depend on the number of Villages participating, the total number of households and therefore flyers needed, and any additional assembly costs, which are anticipated to be negligible. The estimated costs range from 3.5 cents per flyer to 5.25 cents per flyer. Costs may be lower depending on paper stock to be used. The Consortium will work with each Village Office to determine the number of flyers needed and resulting production costs to the Village.
- **Nature trail/LNCI signage:** Production costs will depend on the number of BACOG governments participating. If eight signs are produced, the total cost per government would be: \$124.90 which includes one vinyl Omega board 12 inch x 18 inch sign, a four-foot 4 inch x 4inch cedar post, and a 24-inch steel ground post anchor. If only two signs are produced, the total cost each of the two governments incurs would be \$144.15.

ACTION ITEM: Decision requested of Village of Deer Park to continue its participation as a part of the Vehe Farm LNCI initiative on the Lake Zurich Middle School Youth Coalition and, if so, whom does it wish to be the attending representative?

This action item is a result of the Vehe Farm Foundation's dissolution. Currently the Foundation through Pat Winkelman represents the Village/Vehe Farm and the LNCI efforts specific to the farm. The next meeting is scheduled for May and it would be appropriate to attend at that time. The Foundation would appreciate the opportunity to advise the Roundtable of its successor.

ACTION ITEM: Decision requested of the Village of Deer Park to continue its participation in the Lake - McHenry Historical Alliance and, if so, whom does it wish to be the attending representative?

This action item is a result of the Vehe Farm Foundation’s dissolution. Currently the Foundation through Pat Winkelman represents the Village/Vehe Farm. The next meeting is scheduled for April/May and it would be appropriate for the new representative to attend at that time. The Foundation would appreciate the opportunity to advise the Alliance of its successor.

ACTION ITEM: Decision requested by the Village of Deer Park regarding the long term preservation of the outbuildings and whether the Vehe Farm Foundation should continue the discussions with the potential donor until the Foundation’s dissolution?

Discussions have been on-going for over one year with a potential donor of these construction services/materials. The economy has delayed progress. If the Village is interested in the possibility of the outbuildings being preserved, then the Foundation is happy to continue discussions until the Foundation dissolves. If the Village is not interested in the outbuildings being preserved, then the Foundation will advise the potential donor.

ACTION ITEM: Decision requested of the Village of Deer Park to continue its participation in the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Educational Trunk program and, if so, whom does it wish to be the person in charge of the trunk loans?

This action item is a result of the Vehe Farm Foundation’s dissolution. Currently the Foundation through Pat Winkelman represents the Historic Vehe Farm and coordinates the trunk loan program. The Foundation would appreciate the opportunity to advise the Illinois Department of Natural Resources if the Village would like to continue this educational community service.

Grounds Stewardship

Volunteer efforts have focused on replacing worn bluebird houses with new houses made by Scout as part of his Eagle project. The existing houses are being sanitized and cleaned of old nesting material in anticipation of the arrival of the bluebirds in the next few weeks. The Wood Duck house has been repaired by a resident volunteer and reinstalled in the wetland. Spring migration of several bird and butterfly species is underway.

Community Service, Historical and Education Programs

Lake Zurich Roundtable on Children’s After-School Activities

The Foundation, representing the Village and the LNCI Consortium, continues to participate with the Ela Township Middle School Youth Coalition. The coalition’s new website for middle school students, www.wassupinlz.com debuts on March 9th, with a “Go Live Party”, beginning 4:00 pm, at the Lake Zurich YMCA Youth Center.. The website will have local events for middle school aged children, be a site for kids to ask questions about social interaction or problems at home or school, and a location for children and parents to seek advice and assistance.

LNCI Consortium Update

The attached community letter describes the many successes the Consortium has experienced over the past few months. In addition:

- The Consortium was represented at the February 25th discussion by author Dr. Ken Ginsberg regarding students dealing with stress and everyday pressures at the Barrington High School.
- The UIC College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs/Department of Public Administration “Capstone Project” interviews of Consortium member are completed. The Capstone Project final report will be presented to the Consortium in May.
- Representatives of the LNCI Consortium will be speaking with Healthier Barrington members this month.
- Members of the Consortium have been asked to facilitate at the Brilliant Parent Discussion Group’s “Connecting Your Child with Nature”, sponsored by the parents of Water’s Edge Waldorf School in Wauconda.

Please visit the updated website www.funoutside.org for additional information about the LNCI Consortium activities.

As part of the Vehe Farm Foundation’s dissolution, the Consortium will be identifying new leadership from the ranks of other organizations in the broader community.

Transition

VFF and resident volunteers provided their services to the Village to host the Great Backyard Bird Count with the cooperation of Prairie Woods Audubon Society on February 13th. The event was quite successful with numerous birds counted and the children participated in a craft to attract birds to their home. An anonymous donor provided binoculars, a birding life list book, and bird activity books valued at approximately \$120.00 as door prizes. Cost to the Village was \$3.22. Costco provided craft supplies and hot chocolate.

Village Board’s Request for Clarification on Foundation’s Reported Cash Balance

(Background: The 12-31-2008 cash balance reported on the Foundation’s 2008 Form 990 was \$20,738. The “Village-sourced” fund balance as of 01-01-2009 reported by the Foundation in its “Vehe Farm Foundation 01/01/2009 through Feb. 07, 2010 Accounting” was \$ 12,708. The Village Board has asked for clarification as to the \$8,030 difference.)

The \$8,030 is the **non**-Village-sourced funds (e.g., private donations) portion of the Foundation’s total cash balance. The Foundation’s 990 reported funds consist of Village-sourced *and* non-Village sourced dollars. This concept was explained previously to President Kellermann in a December 12, 2007 letter he received from Teri Bridge. More recently, both classifications of assets were referenced in the Foundation’s FY2010 budget document that was submitted to the Village Board.

Accounting of Village Contributions Spent

\$305.00 to Great American Insurance for general comprehensive liability insurance premium payment.

\$67.83 to Forest Agency for Surety Bond premium payment.

\$70.00 to M&S Landscaping for transferring mulch last fall from Village Office parking lot to under prairie catalpa

\$17.60 to Pat Winkelman for reimbursement of postage expense

List of attachments:

- 1) Waiver Form for May 4, 2010 Vehe Farm Foundation/LNCI Consortium event.
- 2) Letter dated May 17, 2008 from the Vehe Farm Foundation to Harold Vehe re the perpetual loan of the Vehe Farmstead charcoal/ink drawing.
- 3) Letter dated May 17, 2008 from Teri Bridge to Scott Gifford/Jim Connors regarding her perpetual loan to the Village of the farm animal montage.
- 4) Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights flyer created by Chicago Wilderness. (9 copies)
- 5) Leave No Child Inside community flyer. (9 copies)
- 6) Path signage
- 7) Letter Kellermann dated December 12, 2007