

## Cook County Forest Preserve Meeting

June 6, 2007

A resolution honoring Barbara Whitney Carr, retiring President and CEO of the Chicago Botanic Gardens, opened the meeting. The marvelous resolution was read into the record and the Commissioners were eloquent in their praise. Ms. Carr's successes have been monumental. They include establishing a partnership with Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, U.K. to preserve endangered prairie plants, partnerships with universities for programs in ecology, restoration and much more.

Ms. Carr will be retiring September 1, 2007 and Sophia Siskel will then lead the Botanic Gardens.

Forest Preserve former Chief Attorney Robert Kinchen has been replaced by Dennis White, a 1994 law school graduate of Northwestern. Mr. White has had experience in both Federal government and private enterprise.

IDOT is required to pay for removal and replacement of all trees (335) when expanding the highways. They have requested 4 permanent and 2 temporary easements. Improvements are being made on Milwaukee between Willow Road and Sanders Road, and also Milwaukee Ave. and Des Plaines River Road.

There are 40 fishing lakes and 9 rivers within the Forest Preserve. Get your license.

Comm. Greg Goslin has proposed a resolution regarding natural terrain sledding. The board has debated the repairs, financial responsibility and staffing of the toboggan slides for a very long time. The Commissioner's proposal is natural terrain sledding in the toboggan slide areas and also other hilly areas that might be appropriate. Your suggestions would be considered by the Commissioner. If you have a favorite sledding area you can phone his office at 847/729-9300. This natural sledding would come without the supervision of the Forest Preserve employees.

Mary Ann Tate  
6/13/07