



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 27, 2024

TO: Forest Preserve District Finance and Administration Committee

FROM: Jennifer Rooks-Lopez, Chief of Planning and Land Management
Benjamin Haberthur, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Presentation and Approval of a 1 year Extension for the Historical Structures Operating and Caretaking Agreement with the Preservation Partners

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider a 1-year Extension to the Historic Structures Operating and Caretaking Agreement with Preservation Partners for the management of the Fabyan Villa and Japanese Garden at Fabyan Forest Preserve, and the Durant-Peterson House Museum and Sholes School at Leroy Oakes Forest Preserve.

BACKGROUND:

Preservation Partners has been managing the Fabyan Villa Museum at Fabyan Forest Preserve, and the Durant-Peterson House at Leroy Oakes Forest Preserve since the mid 1990's. On October 25, 2017, the Pioneer Sholes Restoration Society was dissolved, and the operations, income and artifacts transferred to Preservation Partners. The Historic Structures Operating and Caretaking Agreement with Preservation Partners expires on August 31, 2024. A 1-year extension is proposed for the current agreement in order to revisit future management of the Fabyan Windmill.

Preservation Partners provides exclusive exhibits management, staffing, tours, program coordination and marketing for the Fabyan Villa, the Durant-Peterson House, and Sholes School. Additionally, Preservation Partners coordinates programming and tours of the Fabyan Japanese Garden.

The District owns all of the land and structures and is responsible for the expense and coordination of maintenance/repairs and utilities for the buildings as well as grounds/landscape maintenance.

The new contract will increase payments to Preservation Partners from a previous annual amount of \$95,000 to a new annual sum of \$115,000 for their services with \$78,000 allocated to the operation of the Fabyan Villa plus an additional \$10,000 for the Japanese Garden and \$27,000 allocated for the operation of the Durant-Peterson House and the Sholes School.

The agreement term is 1 year through August 31, 2025. The District's legal counsel and risk management provider (PDRMA) have reviewed the agreement.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funds totaling \$115,000 were budgeted in the 2024-2025 fiscal year for this project. Sufficient funds totaling \$115,000 are available in the General Fund Administration Organizational Support Account #01-11-11-5020 for this expense totaling \$115,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Committee approve the 1-year Historic Structures Operating and Caretaking Agreement extension with Preservation Partners for the management of the Villa at Fabyan Forest Preserve and the Durant-Peterson House Museum and Sholes School at Leroy Oakes Forest Preserve presented.

ATTACHMENTS:

Renewal Historic Structures Operating and Caretaking Agreement