

Supervisor Carla Sloan

Supervisor Carla Sloan has been a resident of River Forest since 1988. She and her husband, Ed, have raised their four (now grown) children here. Carla served as the Township Clerk for 3 years and was elected Township Supervisor in 2013. She is currently serving a third term as Supervisor.

Supervisor Sloan's undergraduate education focused on government, including internships in Washington, DC and Albany, NY. During graduate school and her professional career, Carla transitioned to business and the private sector, working in marketing, product development, financial management, and small non-profit management. Her volunteer experience includes extensive work in the developmental disabilities arena, inspired by her oldest daughter with autism. Serving as Township Clerk and Supervisor has re-connected Carla with her passion/experience in both the public sector and human services.

When not working at the Township, Carla enjoys family and friends, travel, reading, tennis and yoga.

Assessor Pamela Kende

Assessor Pamela Kende has been the River Forest Township Assessor since 2006 and is currently serving a 5th term. Pam's unique knowledge base and continuity in office are helpful to residents as they navigate the complex property tax process.

She and her family have lived in River Forest since 2001, moving here from Oak Park. Pam has two grown children. Assessor Kende is an avid sports enthusiast.

Trustee Helene Connolly

Trustee Helene Connolly has lived in River Forest for the past 30+ years with her husband, Mark. They raised their three now grown children here and have two grandchildren who live in this town as well. Helene is an emergency physician who practiced most of her career at Mercy Hospital in Chicago and now works for Loyola, greatly improving her commute and work environment.

Trustee Connolly became involved with River Forest Township approximately 30 years ago when joined the River Forest Mental Health Committee. She felt it was a good fit with her work in the emergency department. She assumed the position of chair and continued serving in that capacity until a vacancy opened up on the Township Board of Trustees in 2015. Because of Helene's lengthy relationship with the Township, she was asked to fill the vacancy, which she gladly accepted. She was elected to her first four-year term in April, 2017 and is currently serving a second term as Trustee.

When Helene is not working, she likes to play tennis, travel and spend time with her grandchildren.

Trustee Deana Herrman

Deana Herrman has lived in River Forest since 2014 with her husband and 2 children. She recently served on the River Forest Mental Health Committee for the last year before being appointed Township Trustee in January 2021 to replace Trustee Mark Kelty. She was elected Trustee in April 2021.

Deana would like to continue her volunteer commitment to the community while also amplifying the perspectives of people with disabilities in the work of the Township. Her professional background working to impact disparities disabled people face, as well as her own personal connection to disability, inform her awareness of the daily lived experiences of navigating complex social systems and policies that impact access to services and community participation. Deana supports the collaborative partnerships the Township has with local organizations and governing entities. She looks forward to working with the Township to ensure programming and services continue to fully reach members of our community.

Trustee Keith Strom

Trustee Keith Strom has resided in the area over twenty-five years, moving to River Forest in 2019. He and his wife, Lisa, have raised four children through the Oak Park/River Forest public school systems, with the youngest graduating from OPRF High School in 2022. Keith brings well-versed work experience from his twenty-five-year corporate career in executive management roles in global travel planning services. Since 2017, Keith serves as the executive director of the Hemingway Foundation, a non-profit organization. Keith is honored to support several organizations and boards that advocate for the well-being and enrichment of early childhood education, food security, health wellness, local tourism, and performance arts access to underserved communities. Keith was elected Trustee in April 2021.

Keith enjoys spending time with family and friends, staying active and working on home improvement projects.

Trustee Karen Taubman

Trustee Karen Taubman has lived in River Forest since 1992. She and her husband, Eric, have three sons, who attended River Forest public schools and OPRF High School.

Karen has been involved with the Township since she was elected Clerk in 2013. Due to increased job responsibilities outside the Township during the day, she resigned as Clerk, in hopes of becoming a Township Trustee. When running for Trustee, Karen stated, "After sitting through 40+ meetings as the Clerk, I want to have a more active

voice in the Township.” She was elected to the Trustee position in April 2017 and is currently serving a second term as Trustee.

Trustee Taubman enjoys spending time with family and friends, travel, gardening and home projects; and staying active through walking, running, tennis, biking, and yoga.

Clerk Vanessa Druckman

Clerk Vanessa Druckman has lived in River Forest since 2010. She has four children who have or are currently attending River Forest public schools. In her prior positions in the Oak Park- River Forest area, Clerk Druckman taught French to Lincoln School students and worked in the research department of Shriners’ Hospital. Vanessa contributes to the community through her work with Housing Forward. She is an avid cook and loves making huge batches of beef stew to serve to the homeless guests.

Vanessa was appointed to the Clerk position in January 2021 to replace Clerk Abby Schmelling. Vanessa was elected Clerk in April 2021.

In her spare time, Clerk Druckman loves to ski, play tennis, travel, read and write.

5/25/21

