

FOREST PRESERVE COMMITTEE MINUTES FROM MAY 4, 2012

PRESENT: Committee members, T. Rockwell, J. Bohnsack, V. Dueysen, S. Sallows, F. Schultz and R. Simmer.

ABSENT: Committee members, K. Harmon and K. Maranda.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Craver, Director; Marc Heinzman, Interim Zoo Director; Doug Wells, Golf Course Manager; Ben Mills, Loud Thunder Ranger; Patricia Duffy, Personal Marketing Research; Robert Westpfahl, Commissioner; Cathy Bizarri, Ann and Paula Gaydosh.

Chairman Rockwell called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Committee to order at 3:00 PM on Friday, May 4, 2012, at Indian Bluff Golf Course Club House, Milan, Illinois.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion approving the April Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION: Mr. Bohnsack moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Dueysen. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the claims for the Forest Preserve Fund in the amount of \$53,482.01, the Niabi Zoo Fund claims in the amount of \$128,147.92 and the Marvin Martin Trust Fund claim in the amount of \$75,385.00.

MOTION: Mr. Schultz moved to approve the claims. Mr. Dueysen seconded. Motion carried

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the Transfers of Appropriation in the Forest Preserve Fund and Niabi Zoo Fund.

MOTION: Ms. Sallows approved the Transfers. Mr. Schultz seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve a Resolution transferring \$127,300 in the Niabi Zoo Fund.

MOTION: Mr. Dueysen moved to approve the Resolution. Second by Mr. Bohnsack. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion approving a Resolution loaning \$15,000 to the FISSA Fund.

MOTION: Mr. Bohnsack move to approve the Resolution. Dr. Simmer seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the Ordinance establishing the compensation of members and officers of the County Forest Preserve Commission.

MOTION: Mr. Dueysen moved to approve the Ordinance. Dr. Simmer seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called on Patricia Duffy from Personal Marketing Research to report on the Community Perception Survey. Ms. Duffy reported overall the community seemed to approve of what our facilities have to offer. She was surprised that the majority were satisfied with the present exhibits at the Zoo and didn't need more. Chairman Rockwell and Mr. Craver said our next step is to have at least two public input meetings. Chairman Rockwell said he would like to see the members of the Committee and the Commissioners present at these meetings.

Chairman Rockwell called on Doug Wells for the Indian Bluff report. Mr. Wells presented his written report stating the course is in good condition and the cart path on #18 was completed on April 23rd. He said he would be glad to take anyone out on the course after the meeting. Mr. Bohnsack inspected Indian Bluff and reported everything looked good.

Chairman Rockwell said Illiniwek Ranger Scott White has been excused from the meeting. Mr. Schultz inspected Illiniwek and gave his report. Mr. Craver stated that he thinks Dorrance property has to be surveyed. Mr. Bohnsack said the first step before surveying is for the township trustees to look at the property and try to determine the boundaries.

MOTION: Mr. Bohnsack moved to have the township try to determine the property lines before we do a survey. Dr. Simmer seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called on Ben Mills for the Loud Thunder report. Mr. Mills reported they had a busy April. In his report he mentioned that with the help of the Illinois City Saddle Club a park cleanup day was organized and around thirty volunteers participated. The Muskie Club came out and cleaned up the Lake George shoreline and they hosted over 300 students for the spring session of the ECO Camp. Mr. Bohnsack inspected Loud Thunder and said the park is in good shape and he likes the new information kiosk installed on top of the hill above Lyle's Landing. Mr. Mills said the old truck they put up for sale outside the Highway Department sold for \$2,000.

Chairman Rockwell said we have received a response from the DNR regarding the extension for repairs to the Lake George Dam. It stated that if the construction activity permitted is not completed on or before December 31, 2020, the permit #DS2007010 shall cease and be null and void. This means they could pull our permit and camping below the dam could be closed.

Chairman Rockwell called on Marc Heinzman for the Niabi Zoo report. In his report, Mr. Heinzman stated that April was a good month for the Zoo. He reported the section of sidewalk near the lion exhibit was mud jacked up to level it out. They held their annual Earth Day event, Party for the Planet, on April 22nd. The bear exhibit has been torn down and sod will be laid down courtesy of the Niabi Zoological Society. Mr. Schultz inspected the Zoo and read his report. Chairman Rockwell asked Mr. Heinzman what some of the Society's future contributions will be. He said they are going to install three flag poles at the entrance. They are planning to install a viewing window area in the cat exhibits and they want to completely redo the lion exhibit.

Chairman Rockwell called on Mr. Craver for his report. Mr. Craver reported the web site is making progress. The Zoo's Field Office Manager position has been filled by Carla Friedland.

Mr. Craver has met with the Auditor, Treasurer, Linda Billingsley and Mr. Bohnsack to discuss the Forest Preserve District getting its own federal ID number.

Chairman Rockwell said we will have a meeting in a couple weeks to discuss interviews for Zoo Director.

MOTION: Mr. Dueysen moved to approve all reports. Mr. Schultz seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell adjourned the meeting at 4:08 PM.

Submitted by:

S. A. Gianulis
Administrative Assistant
Forest Preserve District

