

**FOREST PRESERVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2018**

PRESENT: Committee members - K. Swanson, K. Maranda, D. Cremeens, E. Sowards, C. O'Brien.

ABSENT: R. Simmer.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Craver, District Director; Lee Jackson, Zoo Director; Mike Petersen, Illiniwek Ranger; Ben Mills, Loud Thunder Ranger; Todd Collins, Club House Manager; April Palmer, County Auditor; Louisa Ewert, County Treasurer; Carrie Kerr, Treasurer's Office.

President Swanson called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Executive Committee to order at 3:31 PM on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, in the County Board Office on the second floor of the County Building, Rock Island, Illinois.

President Swanson called for a motion approving the January Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the January Committee meeting minutes. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

No request for public comment was submitted.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the claims for the Forest Preserve General Fund in the amount of \$31,031.83, Niabi Zoo Fund claims in the amount of \$95,774.42, Forest Preserve Liability Fund claims in the amount of \$370.00, and Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$27,959.11.

MOTION: Ms. O'Brien moved to approve the claims and treasurer's disbursements. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the resolution regarding the settlement agreement regarding Quad Cities Nuclear Power Plant assessment.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the resolution regarding the settlement agreement regarding Quad Cities Nuclear Power Plant assessment. Mr. Cremeens seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Niabi Zoo Concession Agreement with Sunshine Sammi.

MOTION: Ms. O'Brien moved to approve the Niabi Zoo concession agreement with Sunshine Sammi. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Beverage Exclusivity Agreement with AD Huesing.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the Beverage Exclusivity Agreement with AD Huesing. Ms. O'Brien seconded the motion.

Mr. Craver stated that three of the District's facilities were using AD Huesing for their beverage concessions. The District put out an RFP for the beverages, and vending services all under one business. Only one proposal was received, which was AD Huesing. Staff is satisfied with the services they've been getting. I believe Niabi is looking forward to working with this vendor. With the new water system the concessioner will be able to do fountain drinks. There will be a kick back, so the District will receive funds from this.

Ms. O'Brien asked how long the agreement was for.

Mr. Craver answered that the agreement was for five years.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Non-Monetary Policy.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the Non-Monetary Policy. Ms. O'Brien seconded the motion.

Mr. Craver stated that this policy came about due to an offer made by WQPT to Niabi exchanging airtime for passes. The policy will be available for all the District's facilities to utilize should opportunities arise.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Identity Protection Policy.

MOTION: Ms. O'Brien moved to approve the Identity Protection Policy. Mr. Cremeens seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called on Mr. Craver to discuss the possibility of the District getting an IAPD Board Evaluation and Distinguished Accreditation.

Mr. Craver stated that the District is a member of the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD). One of the services they offer is an evaluation and distinguished accreditation of the full Commission. Included in the packet is an example of their methodology. There are some out of pocket travel expenses, but the service itself is included with the membership. It requires that each Commission member take some time, and interview and read up on some material that's provided by IAPD. What are the Committee's feelings on this? Is there interest in putting forth the effort?

President Swanson asked if Mr. Craver felt that it is practical to be able to reach all Commissioners with the kind of messages that we'd to in order to properly do this evaluation?

Mr. Craver stated that he had been trying to communicate with the board members through a board manual, through tours, through materials, through emails, but honestly, couldn't guarantee that everyone was looking at what was being sent.

Ms. O'Brien asked what having this accreditation would gain the District.

Mr. Craver answered that this evaluation can help to set goals and see progress, and see what can be improved on as a board.

Ms. O'Brien expressed her support and stated that doing the evaluation now would be good timing considering that the District is redoing its master plan.

Mr. Moreno expressed his support of the evaluation, as did Mr. Maranda, Ms. Sowards, and Mr. Cremeens.

President Swanson stated that he felt this would be a good idea as well, and asked what the next step in the process would be.

Mr. Craver stated that this could be brought up to the Commission as early as this month to see if the entire Commission had interest in doing this evaluation. If the entire board is interested in doing the evaluation, then more details could be brought to them in March. This is something that can't be done without the full support of the Commission, and the deadline to apply for the evaluation is April 1st.

President Swanson called on Ms. Palmer for the Auditor's reports.

Ms. Palmer stated that the standard reports were in the packet, which included nothing of particular note, and briefly went through the reports.

President Swanson asked Ms. Ewert if there was anything she would like to note on the Treasurer's report.

Ms. Ewert stated that there was nothing of note in the report, and introduced Ms. Carrie Kerr who takes care of the District's accounts.

President Swanson asked Mr. Collins if there was anything he'd like to bring attention to in his Indian Bluff report.

Mr. Collins reported that January was slow, which is normal. Staff is concentrating on getting ready for the season.

Mr. Craver asked Mr. Collins to talk a bit about the days lost to excessive rain fall.

Mr. Collins explained that when there is excessive rain Indian Bluff loses money due to no carts being allowed out onto the greens.

Mr. Craver stated that a continuous cart path would allow the carts to be available even when there is a significant rain event. The project is estimated to cost around \$400,000.00. That's something to keep in mind for the future.

There was a brief discussion on the water quality at Indian Bluff, and that staff was looking into what options there were for improvement, including hooking up to the municipal water supply.

President Swanson asked Mr. Mills if there was anything he'd like to bring attention to in his Loud Thunder report.

Mr. Mills reported that staff removed fifteen acres of invasive species in preparation for planting. The Pearl City Buckskinners are requesting the half price camping rate for their annual event. They have had the program at Loud Thunder for about four years now.

President Swanson asked Mr. Petersen if there was anything he'd like to bring attention to in his Illiniwek report.

Mr. Petersen reported that the only thing of note was that the bike rental will be available this season. It will be road bikes, not mountain bikes.

Mr. Craver stated that staff would get together with the Civil Division to make sure that the District has an appropriate liability waiver.

President Swanson asked Mr. Jackson if there was anything he'd like to bring attention to in his Niabi Zoo report.

Mr. Jackson reported that an Allen's Swamp Monkey was received, and will be added in the collection this season. There were a couple of fixes made at Niabi due to the USDA recommendations. The USDA is the Federal entity that regulates and licenses zoos.

There have been two planning meetings so far for the master plan, and those meetings are going well. The February CAB meeting was rescheduled due to inclement weather. That meeting is now scheduled for the twentieth of February. Niabi has started a new speaker series. There are three scheduled so far.

President Swanson asked Mr. Craver if there was anything he'd like to bring attention to in his director's report.

Mr. Craver stated that the allotted annual withdrawal for the Loud Thunder Endowment will be in the amount of \$72,000.00. The District is working with MindFire on website issues and updating. The District received \$500.00 from the IPARKS grant program. Some of the District staff will be at a conference on Thursday and Friday this week.

President Swanson then called for a motion approving the routine reports of the District.

MOTION: Mr. Moreno moved to approve the routine reports of the District. Ms. O'Brien seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson spoke briefly regarding employee health walks at District facilities.

President Swanson called the meeting adjourn.

Adjourned the meeting at 4:47 PM.

Submitted by:
Cassie Sullivan
Forest Preserve Administrative Assistant