

FOREST PRESERVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
MARCH 12, 2019

PRESENT: Committee members - K. Swanson, C. O'Brien(via phone), D. Cremeens, R. Simmer, K. Maranda, E. Sowards, L. Moreno.

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Lee Jackson, Zoo Director; Todd Collins, Club House Manager; Jay Verstraete, Golf Course Superintendent; Mike Petersen, Illiniwek Ranger, Ben Mills, Loud Thunder Ranger, April Palmer, Auditor.

President Swanson called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Executive Committee to order at 3:31 PM on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, in the Rock Island County Building on the second floor Rock Island, Illinois.

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

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the February Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Cremeens seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

No request for public comment was submitted.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Forest Preserve General Fund claims in the amount of \$33,513.87, Niabi Zoo Fund claims in the amount of \$118,277.93, Loud Thunder Spillway & Improvements Fund claims in the amount of \$48,109.27, and Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$25,135.44.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the claims and Treasurer's Disbursements. Dr. Moreno seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the transfers of appropriation in the Niabi Zoo Fund.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the transfers of appropriation in the Niabi Zoo Fund. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Appropriation Amendment loaning the Marvin Martin Fund up to \$20,000.00 from the General Fund.

Mr. Mills gave a brief explanation of the reason for the resolution.

MOTION: Ms. Sowards moved to approve the Appropriation Amendment loaning the Marvin Martin Fund up to \$20,000.00 from the General Fund. Dr. Moreno seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

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

Ms. Palmer stated that no fund is over budget spent. Niabi recovered some of the fund balance in the past month. The Cash Balances Report also reflects what's seen on the Fund Balance Report in the Niabi Zoo Fund and Marvin Martin Fund.

President Swanson called on Mr. Verstraete and Mr. Collins for the Indian Bluff reports.

Mr. Verstraete stated that the weather seems to be turning, and winter just might be ending. Staff is getting out to assess and work on getting the course up and running.

President Swanson called on Mr. Mills for the Loud Thunder report.

Mr. Mills stated that the gate is going in on the spillway. Once that's in staff will have the ability to close it, and the lake can start filling in. However, after speaking with the fish biologist, who recommended that filling the lake be put off until mid to late May due to the spawn cycle of the fish population of Lake George, staff will wait until mid-May to close the gate so the lake can start to fill in. There is also a project on the boat rental shore that needs to be completed before the lake can be raised. The only other thing to report is that camping will begin a week late due to the weather.

President Swanson called on Mr. Petersen for the Illiniwek report.

Mr. Petersen stated that camping at Illiniwek would also be a week late. Temperature lows would need to be consistently in the forties for it to be safe to turn the water on. The application for a grant for the new restroom has been submitted, but we may not hear back for a year.

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

Mr. Jackson stated that the primate exhibit was near completion. There was also some hatching recently. The latest speaker was from Zimbabwe. Niabi will be partnering with the Botanical Center and Figge.

President Swanson asked if anyone had gotten any questions or comments from constituents regarding the public commenter from last month's meeting's comments on privatization of the zoo.

Dr. Simmer stated that he had, and asked if the plans for Niabi are up on the website.

Mr. Jackson answered that the master plan is not posted on Niabi's website.

President Swanson stated that the CAB and Mr. Jackson were continuing the work on the new 501c3.

Mr. Jackson stated that the announcement for the master plan will go out in September once staff has heard back from the AZA.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve all routine reports for the District.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve all routine reports for the District. Mr. Cremeens seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Adjourned the meeting at 3:57 PM.

Submitted by:
Cassie Sullivan
Forest Preserve Administrative Assistant