

FOREST PRESERVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
JUNE 11, 2019

PRESENT: Committee members - R. Simmer, K. Maranda, E. Sowards, L. Moreno, K. Swanson.

ABSENT: D. Cremeens.

ALSO PRESENT: S. Noyd, District Three Commissioner; Jeff Craver, District Director; Lee Jackson, Niabi Zoo Director; April Palmer, Auditor.

President Swanson called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Executive Committee to order at 3:33 PM on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, in the Pavilion at Illiniwek Forest Preserve in Hampton, Illinois.

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

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the May Committee meeting minutes. Dr. Moreno seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

No request for public comment was submitted.

President Swanson thanked Dr. Simmer for accompanying him to the IAPD Bootcamp last Tuesday. Highly recommend Commissioners attending that conference.

Dr. Simmer stated that it was a good experience, and would be very valuable information for new Commissioners in order to get acquainted with the unique entities that are Forest Preserve Districts.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the Forest Preserve General Fund claims in the amount of \$62,325.34, Niabi Zoo Fund claims in the amount of \$97,156.38, Golf Course Improvement Fund claims in the amount of \$1,189.72, Loud Thunder Spillway & Improvements Fund claims in the amount of \$37,818.75, Marvin Martin Fund claims in the amount of \$19,719.21, Development of Forests and Construction Fund claims in the amount of \$8,368.99, and Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$132,601.64.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer 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 transfers of appropriation in the General Fund and Niabi Zoo Fund.

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

Motion carried.

President Swanson stated the proposed Gifts and Donations Policy presented in the packet is a step to take as a prelude to the new 501c3 organization. Would the Committee like to go ahead with the approval now to move the policy unto the full Commission for approval?

Mr. Jackson stated that he wanted to publicly thank the members of the CAB for their work on the document, and there will be a more detailed addendum that will be presented in the future.

There was consensus to approve the policy now.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the proposed Gifts and Donations Policy. Dr. Moreno seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the low bid for the Loud Thunder Forest Preserve Campground Improvement project.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the low bid for the Loud Thunder Forest Preserve Campground Improvement. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion.

President Swanson stated that the low bid is the recommendation of staff and the engineer.

Mr. Craver briefly went through the history of steps taken to get to the bids that were posted, and received. There is hope that there will be enough left over for two cabins. The bids that are in front of you are for the main campground improvements, and do not include cabins.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the low bid for the Loud Thunder Forest Preserve Playground.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the low bid for the Loud Thunder Forest Preserve Playground. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson asked Ms. Palmer for the Auditor's Reports.

Ms. Palmer stated that there was one more month left in the fiscal year. As always staff will have until the end of August to put in expenses and revenues for the 2019 fiscal year. Revenue has been down in the General Fund and Niabi Zoo Fund, but staff has also kept expenses down in those funds. The property tax distribution is on schedule for disbursement.

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

Mr. Jackson stated that the second half of the AZA inspection would begin tomorrow. The work on the exterior portion of the primate exhibit and the work on the cat house doors has begun.

Mr. Craver asked about construction signs that could be put up when the preserves are in the midst of construction while in the open season.

Dr. Simmer stated that it might be nice to have signs up during construction of improvement projects stating who the money was coming from for that project. For example, during the giraffe shading construction, the District could have put up a sign stating what the project was and that it was being funded by the Society.

President Swanson asked Mr. Craver if there was anything from his report that he wanted to bring attention to.

Mr. Craver stated that there is a possibility for land acquisition adjacent to Loud Thunder Forest Preserve. It is right across from the small parking area for the Hauberg trail that's at the base of the hill on Illinois Route 92. Someone passed away recently, and the family contacted the District about obtaining the land. There is a house on the property that is not fit for inhabiting. That would need to be removed from the property. What are the Committee's opinions on acquiring the land?

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to authorize Mr. Craver to use his discretion on the acquisition of the land in question. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

There was a brief discussion on the scope of the software RFP that was posted on the District's website.

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

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Maranda asked about the vacancy on the Forest Preserve Executive Committee since Ms. O'Brien had resigned.

President Swanson stated that an invitation to join the Committee had been extended to Ms. Normoyle, the District Fourteen Commissioner.

Adjourned the meeting at 4:25 PM.

Submitted by:
Cassie Sullivan
Forest Preserve Administrative Assistant