

FOREST PRESERVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
JANUARY 9, 2024

PRESENT: Committee members –L. Moreno, D. Mielke, E. Sowards, R. Simmer, C. Layer, K. Swanson, J. Woods.

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Craver, District Director; Lee Jackson, Niabi Zoo Director; April Palmer, Auditor; Nick Camlin, Treasurer.

President Swanson called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Executive Committee to order at 9:32 AM on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, in the 3rd floor chambers of the Rock Island County Building, Rock Island, Illinois.

L. Moreno, E. Sowards, R. Simmer, C. Layer, D. Mielke, K. Swanson, J. Woods.

TOTAL PRESENT 7

TOTAL ABSENT 0

President Swanson called for a motion approving the December Committee meeting.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the December Committee meeting minutes. Ms. Woods seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the claims and treasurer's disbursements in the amount of \$223,444.62.

MOTION: Mr. Layer moved to approve the claims and treasurer's disbursements in the amount of \$223,444.62. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the transfers of appropriation.

MOTION: Dr. Moreno moved to approve the transfers of appropriation. Mr. Mielke seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the resolutions regarding the Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes.

MOTION: Dr. Moreno moved to approve the resolutions regarding the Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes. Mr. Mielke seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the resolutions regarding Niabi Zoo Scott County Regional Development Authority Grant Appropriations, Niabi Zoo receipt of Grant Funds – Woodward Community Grant Fund, and Liability Fund Additional Appropriations.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the corrected resolutions regarding Niabi Zoo Scott County Regional Development Authority Grant Appropriations, Niabi Zoo receipt of Grant Funds – Woodward Community Grant Fund, and Liability Fund Additional Appropriations. Ms. Woods seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the resolution regarding Certification of the QCCVB DBA Visit Quad Cities.

MOTION: Mr. Mielke moved to approve the resolution regarding Certification of the QCCVB DBA Visit Quad Cities. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson made three calls for public comment. There was no request for public comment.

President Swanson called for a motion to approve the 2024 user fees for the District.

MOTION: Dr. Moreno moved to approve the 2024 user fees for the District. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

President Swanson asked if the Committee had any questions regarding the routine reports of the District. I hope everyone had the opportunity to go through those. There is a lot of great news for the District.

Dr. Moreno stated that he would like to congratulate Mr. Jackson on his new position as an advisor for the AZA.

President Swanson thanked Mr. Jackson for all the reports on staff's accomplishments. Including Ms. Schmidt and her work with the AZA on the Rhino project, and Mr. Vanderbush in his recent trip overseas which was great to see that work on social media. It sounds like the Prairie Dogs exhibit is in the home stretch.

Mr. Mielke asked if there will be a press release for getting all this great news out to the public.

Mr. Jackson stated that staff would be meeting with MindFire Communication soon to discuss strategy on getting out the behind the scenes wins for Niabi.

President Swanson asked if any of the staff currently at the meeting would like to bring anything to the Committee's attention.

Ms. Palmer stated that the District was half way through its fiscal year. Then Ms. Palmer gave a brief explanation on the audited beginning balances shown on the Fund Balances Report.

President Swanson called the meeting adjourned at 9:42 AM.

Submitted by:
Cassie Sullivan
Forest Preserve Administrative Assistant