

## FOREST PRESERVE COMMITTEE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 9, 2011

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jeff Craver, Director; Mark Ryan, Zoo Director; Doug Wells, Golf Course Manager; Ben Mills, Loud Thunder Ranger; Scott White, Illiniwek Ranger; Jim Taylor, Carpentier, Mitchell & Goddard and Cathy Bizarri, Taylor Ridge.

Chairman Rockwell called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Committee to order at 3:00 PM on Friday, December 9, 2011, in the second floor conference room of the County Board Office, County Building, Rock Island, Illinois.

Chairman Rockwell called on Jim Taylor of Carpentier, Goddard & Mitchell for a briefing on the FY10-11 Outside Audit. The Committee looked over the comprehensive annual financial report for the year ended June 30, 2011. They went over the letter of transmittal, the independent auditors' report letter and the letter providing information related to their audit. Charts were provided outlining cash and investments, receivables, liabilities and tax revenues. They did not identify any deficiencies in internal control. The Forest Preserve District implemented GASB Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, during the year ended June 30, 2011. Mr. Taylor stated this report was made possible through the dedicated services of the County Auditor's Office as well as Forest Preserve staff. This report will lay on display for thirty days and be enacted upon at the January Forest Preserve Commission. The Committee had no questions for Mr. Taylor at this time.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the November Committee meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** Mr. Schultz moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Maranda. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the claims for the Forest Preserve Fund in the amount of \$14,697.97, the Niabi Zoo Fund claims in the amount of \$206,053.48 and the Liability Insurance Fund claims in the amount of \$1,514.15.

**MOTION:** Mr. Maranda moved to approve all the Fund claims. Mr. Dueysen seconded. Chairman Rockwell abstained. Motion carried

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

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

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion on a Resolution transferring \$18,000 in the Niabi Zoo Fund.

**MOTION:** Mr. Maranda moved to approve the Resolution. Ms. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for approval of a Resolution regarding the designation of banks and depositories.

**MOTION:** Mr. Maranda moved to approve the banking Resolution. Ms. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve a Resolution regarding the Barbara Oltman Estate.

**MOTION:** Mr. Maranda moved to approve the Resolution. Mr. Bohnsack seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement regarding hotel tax monies.

**MOTION:** Mr. Maranda moved to approve the Agreement. Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to take the Ethics Ordinance off display and approve.

**MOTION:** Mr. Maranda moved to take off display and approve the Ordinance. Mr. Dueysen seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to lay on display the updates and revisions of the Forest Preserve District's Policies and Procedures and the revised purchasing procedures.

**MOTION:** Ms. Sallows moved to lay the procedures on display. Mr. Maranda seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to lay the Outside Audit on display for thirty days.

**MOTION:** Mr. Schultz moved to lay the Outside Audit on display. Mr. Maranda seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell asked for approval of the Civil Air Patrol request to use Indian Bluff and Loud Thunder for their winter operational training.

**MOTION:** Dr. Simmer moved to approve their request. Mr. Dueysen seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell asked the Committee to approve an employee's request to pick up some IMRF benefit protection leave from 2006.

**MOTION:** Mr. Bohnsack moved to approve the IMRF benefit. Mr. Maranda seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called on Doug Wells for his report. Mr. Wells reported the golf course closed on November 25<sup>th</sup>. They have blown out the irrigation lines and winterized the park. They have sprayed fungicide and fertilized the course. They are still selling season passes.

Chairman Rockwell called on Scott White for the Illiniwek report. Mr. White reported they have winterized the park. The inside of the office has been painted. They transplanted fourteen trees. They are continuing to work on the mountain bike trail and cutting hazardous trees when found. He believes there is some encroachment of people living around Dorrance onto the park property. The Committee told him to talk to the township assessor about property lines.

Chairman Rockwell called on Ben Mills for his Loud Thunder report and congratulated him on their new baby boy. Mr. Mills presented his written report which details the winterizing of the park and buildings. Mr. Mills said he would like to start an internship program at Loud Thunder. He is asking permission to pursue this and would like to pay them at ten dollars an hour.

**MOTION:** Mr. Bohnsack moved for Mr. Mills to pursue the internship program. Mr. Dueysen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Mills would like permission to extend the archery deer hunt to the fifteenth of January. There have been thirty-seven deer taken so far this season.

**MOTION:** Dr. Simmer moved to extend the deer hunting season at the park. Mr. Bohnsack seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called on Mark Ryan for his report. Mr. Ryan presented his written report. He stated the zoo is closed for the season but they will re-open for four days, December 14<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 8:00pm for a small holiday viewing of the zoo, including lights and decorations.

Chairman Rockwell called on Mr. Craver for his report. Mr. Craver said five Reznor unit heaters need to be replaced, they have cracked heat exchanges and are very old. They got a quote from J. L. Brady for \$7,056.

**MOTION:** Dr. Simmer moved to let Mr. Craver make the decision on the heaters replacements for the best price. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Craver said the zoo maintenance supervisor has requested to scrap out an old hoofstock truck, it is a 1999 Ford F250. He said he would like to put it at the County Highway Department with a "for sale" sign and see if we get an offer.

**MOTION:** Dr. Simmer moved to try to sell the truck and get the best price. Mr. Dueysen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Craver reported we have applied for River Action grants for trail signage at Illiniwek, Loud Thunder and the Martin Conservation Area. The spillway inspection report had been received and no major issues were found. The engineer recommends riprap be placed along the bank and at the bottom of the weir. Ben Mills completed the Certified Playground Inspector Course and he will be our playground inspector. The Ethics Ordinance has been approved and Mr. Rockwell will have to appoint the Ethics Committee members at the meeting of the full Commission.

Mr. Craver reported he got quotes for our "needs assessment survey" from Personal Marketing Research. A telephone survey would be \$16,325, an online survey would be

\$12,725 and a both mixed telephone and online survey run \$17,625. Mr. Craver would recommend the best results would be for the combined telephone and online survey.

**MOTION:** Mr. Maranda recommends the mixed survey be conducted for \$17,625. Mr. Dueysen seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Craver is working with Bi-State to get the request for proposals for website development services for the design of three websites, the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District, Indian Bluff Golf Course and Niabi Zoo.

Mr. Craver said Mr. Wells needs a new computer. The inspection of claims for the Committee members for 2012 was presented.

**MOTION:** Mr. Maranda moved to approve all reports. Dr. Simmer seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell asked if there was any more business to come before the Committee. Cathi Bizarri wanted to invite the Committee members to attend the Saddle Club meeting at Illinois City Hall on the first Saturday in March.

Meeting adjourned at 4:06 PM.

Submitted by:

S. A. Gianulis  
Administrative Assistant  
Forest Preserve District



