

## FOREST PRESERVE COMMITTEE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 4, 2011

**PRESENT:** Committee members, T. Rockwell, J. Bohnsack, V. Dueysen, K. Harmon and F. Schultz.

**ABSENT:** Committee members, R. Simmer and K. Maranda.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jeff Craver, Director; Mike Murrin, Loud Thunder; Doug Wells, Golf Course Manager; Scott White, Illiniwek; Mark Ryan, Zoo Director; Donna Wilkerson, Purchasing and County Board members Mike McColl and Robert Westpfahl.

Chairman Rockwell called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Committee to order at 3:00 PM on Friday, February 4, 2011, in the second floor conference room of the County Board Office, County Building, Rock Island, Illinois.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the January minutes.

**MOTION:** Mr. Schultz moved to approve the minutes, second by Ms. Harmon. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the claims for the Forest Preserve Fund in the amount of \$7,369.86, the Niabi Zoo Fund claims in the amount of \$41,485.43 and the Niabi Zoo Capital Improvement Fund claims in the amount of \$27,450.10.

**MOTION:** Mr. Schultz moved to approve the Forest Preserve claims. Ms. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Mr. Dueysen moved to approve the claims. Ms. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve Resolutions transferring \$26,000 in unappropriated Niabi Zoo Funds, \$11 in IMRF Funds, \$6 in Liability Insurance Funds and \$6 in FISSA Funds.

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

Chairman Rockwell called for approval of an Agreement with the Upper Rock Island County Recreation Association (U.R.I.C.R.A.) regarding use of Dorrance and an Agreement with the Hampton Township Youth Commission (H.T.Y.C.) regarding use of Illiniwek. Mr. White said he would like the H.T.Y.C. to do a better job of clean-up.

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

Chairman Rockwell called for approval of Procedure Manual revisions regarding the dress code policy and a revision to the health insurance policy. Mr. Craver said the health insurance was passed by the full Board last month. The dress code has some additional wording.

**MOTION:** Mr. Dueysen moved to place the dress code policy on display. Ms. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called on Donna Wilkerson. She stated they are going out for bids on railroad tie replacement at Niabi Zoo. The bid opening is February 14<sup>th</sup>. They are asking that the work be completed by March 13<sup>th</sup>. The Zoo opens on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Rockwell appointed a subcommittee chaired by Mr. Simmer with Mr. Maranda and Mr. Schultz to meet at 2:00PM on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February to open the bids in order to make their recommendation to the full Board on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Rockwell called on Mr. Craver for the Director's report. Mr. Craver reported that Doug Wells' contract was up for renewal on November 30<sup>th</sup>, he is asking for approval to renew, the salary has been updated and he is the only employee with a contract. Mr. Rockwell said to table it until next month when we evaluate the non-bargaining unit employees.

**MOTION:** Mr. Bohnsack moved to table Doug's contract until next month. Mr. Dueysen seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Craver would like permission to start hiring seasonal workers at all facilities. He said new hires 18 years of age and older will be paid a minimum wage of \$8.25 an hour and those under 18 years of age will be paid \$7.75. He asked the Committee if they would approve all returning seasonal employees receiving a twenty-five cent increase.

**MOTION:** Mr. Dueysen approved the seasonal hiring's wage and a twenty-five cent increase for all returning workers. Ms. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Craver said we received our annual request from the Civil Air Patrol to use Indian Bluff and Loud Thunder for winter operational training on February 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION:** Mr. Schultz approved the Civil Air Patrol request. Mr. Dueysen seconded. Carried.

Mr. Craver received a request from the Cornbelt Running Club to use the Horse Corral area and the road leading to it at Loud Thunder Forest Preserve on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00AM to 12:00 PM for the purpose of holding the 22nd annual Du-State-Du event, a run-bike-run duathlon.

**MOTION:** Ms. Harmon moved to permit the event. Mr. Dueysen seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Craver said they have applied for a Heart Saver grant through the Illinois Department of Public Health for the total cost of an AED for the Golf Course. He said Ms. Gianulis and himself have completed the FOIA and OMA training for 2011.

The mediation for the Hole #7 dispute has been completed. There is a late claim going through for General Constructors in the amount of \$30,414.86.

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

Chairman Rockwell called on Doug Wells for the Indian Bluff report. Mr. Wells reported the pesticide and fertilizer bids will be in March and the men's restroom floor is completed.

Chairman Rockwell called on Mike Murrin for the Loud Thunder report. Mr. Murrin reported he talked to Dave Martin about the naming of the Ralph Martin property and the Martin's

didn't seem to have a strong opinion but he and Mr. Murrin think the Martin or Parchert name should be recognized. He reported they are holding their first ice fishing derby on Lake George on Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. Croegaerts is helping to sponsor the event and interest has been good.

Chairman Rockwell called on Scott White for the Illiniwek report. Mr. White reported he got some prices for a water heater in the south shower building. Crawford Company's estimate was \$10,200, Erickson Plumbing's estimate was \$8,050 and Allison's was \$4,200. Mr. Rockwell said we should go out for bids. Mr. White said they continue to remove invasive plants species, weather permitting.

Chairman Rockwell called on Mark Ryan for the Zoo report (record). Mr. Ryan reported the AZA application is in final process. He said they received about one hundred sixty applications for Animal Handler from all over the country and have narrowed it down to six applicants to be interviewed. He included a 2011 zoo event schedule and the zoo reopens on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The penguins are leaving.

Mr. Craver invited the Committee members to a legislative breakfast on February 25<sup>th</sup> hosted by City of Rock Island at the Hauberg Civic Center, if anyone is interested please let him know.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve all reports.

**MOTION:** Mr. Dueysen moved to approve all reports. Ms. Schultz seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell asked if there was any more business to come before the Committee, being none, he adjourned at 3:40 PM.

Submitted by:

S. A. Gianulis  
Administrative Assistant  
Forest Preserve District



