

FOREST PRESERVE COMMITTEE MINUTES FROM MARCH 9, 2012

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; Marc Heinzman, Interim Zoo Director; Doug Wells, Golf Course Manager; Ben Mills, Loud Thunder Ranger; Scott White, Illiniwek Ranger; Cathy Bizarri & Vickie Bluedorn, Saddle Club and Eric Anderson, private consulting forester.

Chairman Rockwell called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Committee to order at 3:00 PM on Friday, March 9, 2012, in the second floor conference room of the County Board Office, County Building, Rock Island, Illinois.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion approving the February Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION: Ms. Harmon moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Maranda. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell said that Scott White has to leave the meeting early so called for his report. Mr. White reported there are about six dead oaks at Dorrance that should be taken down. He got a quote of \$1,700 from Bukowsky Brothers to take the trees down.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the claims for the Forest Preserve Fund in the amount of \$10,436.73, the Niabi Zoo Fund claims in the amount of \$39,211.77, the Liability Insurance Fund claims in the amount of \$3,771.80 and the Martin Trust Fund claims in the amount of \$131,162.11.

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

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

MOTION: Mr. Dueysen approved the Transfers. Ms. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve a Resolution transferring \$28,000 from unappropriated Forest Preserve General Funds and a Resolution loaning the Zoo \$150,000.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the Resolutions. Second by Mr. Maranda. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to lay on display the Purchasing Card Policies.

MOTION: Ms. Sallows moved to lay the policies on display. Dr. Simmer seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to lay on display the Forest Management Plan. Eric Anderson gave a brief report on what this plan entails.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to lay the Plan on display. Mr. Dueysen seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called on Doug Wells for the Indian Bluff report. Mr. Wells said they will be opening up the course next Friday. He will have the opening in the press.

Chairman Rockwell called on Ben Mills for the Loud Thunder report. Mr. Mills reported they will be opening on March 30th. He attended the Saddle Club meeting on March 3rd and they had some good suggestions for the trails and volunteered for trail clearing. He reported they needed to get electricity at the horse corral area.

Chairman Rockwell called on Marc Heinzman for the Niabi Zoo report. Mr. Heinzman reported they have had 6,500 people through the gate since they opened on March 5th. He reported Estes Construction has begun their work on repairing the giraffe feeding deck. The pest management people have started working and forty-two mice were eradicated in one night in one building. There was discussion on the location of the new elephant enclosure. The staff would recommend the present elk site

MOTION: Ms. Harmon moved to approve that site. Mr. Maranda seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Bohnsack inspected the Niabi Zoo and gave his report.

Chairman Rockwell called on Mr. Craver for his report. Mr. Craver reported they received a request from the Great Mississippi River Adventure Series (GMRAS) to use Illiniwek for one of the checkpoints for their race on June 30th.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda approved the request. Mr. Bohnsack seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Craver said we received correspondence from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources regarding the completion of repairs to Lake George Dam to bring it into compliance with Illinois' dam safety standards. These items are the placement of stone riprap, construction of a new dewatering system to replace existing system and installation of wave protection timbers on the guardrail along the lake side of the dam. They are asking that we provide a proposed plan of action, including timetable for completing this work by 4/30/12.

Mr. Craver reported the needs assessment survey went live and he will do a press release. He would like approval of camping rate increases of \$1.00 at electrical sites for Illiniwek and Loud Thunder and \$1.00 riverfront camping increase for Loud Thunder.

MOTION: Mr. Dueysen approved the increases. Second by Ms. Harmon. Motion carried.

It was decided that we would go over evaluations for the non-bargaining unit employees next month in closed session.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve all reports. Mr. Schultz seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell adjourned the meeting at 4:17 PM.

Submitted by:

S. A. Gianulis
Administrative Assistant
Forest Preserve District

