

FOREST PRESERVE COMMITTEE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 10, 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; Robert Westpfahl & Mike McColl, Commissioners; Cathy Bizarri, Taylor Ridge and press.

Chairman Rockwell called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Committee to order at 3:00 PM on Friday, February 10, 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 January Committee meeting minutes.

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

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the claims for the Forest Preserve Fund in the amount of \$19,563.03, the Niabi Zoo Fund claims in the amount of \$50,627.98, the Liability Insurance Fund claims in the amount of \$1,283.17, the Niabi Zoo Capital Improvements Fund claim in the amount of \$5,627.22, the Martin Trust Fund claim in the amount of \$24,205.00 and the late claims in the amount of \$15,544.58.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the claims. Ms. Sallows seconded. Motion carried

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

MOTION: Mr. Schultz approved the Transfers. Mr. Dueysen seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve a Resolution transferring \$8,850 in the Forest Preserve Fund.

MOTION: Ms. Harmon moved to approve the Resolution. Second by Mr. Maranda. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion on a Resolution transferring \$5,000 in the Liability Insurance Fund.

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

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion on a Resolution loaning \$150,000 to the Niabi Zoo Fund from the Forest Preserve Fund.

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

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve the Agreement with the Hampton Township Youth Commission regarding the use of Illiniwek and the Agreement with the Upper Rock Island County Recreation Association for the use of Dorrance.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the agreements for the use of the preserves. Dr. Simmer seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell asked Mr. Craver to present the proposals for pest management at Niabi Zoo. Mr. Craver presented Kenney's Pest Control semi monthly at \$480 and does not include rodent services, Presto-X offers various services and costs of \$150 per month for insect and \$360 for rodent control and Advanced Pest Control & Solutions is \$210 per month for insect and rodent control.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to go with Advanced Pest Control. Mr. Maranda seconded. Motion carried.

There was discussion on the website services proposals. Four companies were selected to present their proposals. They were Upstream, Tag, Foresight and Pear. The staff would recommend Upstream but there needs to be some clarification in their proposal. The Committee will be meeting at 4:45 PM on Tuesday before the Commission meeting to decide on these services in order to bring the recommendation to the full Commission.

Next on the agenda was the Club House Manager's salary adjustment. Mr. Craver reported that Todd Collins, Club House Manager, has been selling golf supplies at Indian Bluff that are his inventory. This is a carry-over from when we had a Golf Pro. It was agreed by Mr. Collins that we buy out his inventory and get the future profits from the sale and that we adjust Mr. Collins salary at an additional \$2,500 per year.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the salary adjustment. Mr. Dueysen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called on Doug Wells for his report. Mr. Wells' written report was presented. He reported routine maintenance for the month of January and they painted the Club House interior. He presented his joint purchasing bids for fertilizer and chemicals for 2012. The total came to \$16,668.78.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the Indian Bluff expenditure. Dr. Simmer seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called on Scott White for the Illiniwek report. Mr. White's written report was presented. He reported they are continuing to cut down invasive species and have taken out some hazard trees.

Chairman Rockwell called on Ben Mills for his Loud Thunder report. Mr. Mills' written report was presented. He reported they were forced to cancel the ice fishing tournament due to the warm weather. They are having a bluebird box building day for kids on February 18th. They did an aerial deer count of the preserve. They flew a nine square mile grid and counted 296 deer. He has contacted the DNR for their recommendation in regard to their deer management program. He submitted to the Committee a summary of the totals from this year and previous years of the deer management program.

Chairman Rockwell called on Mr. Craver for his report. Mr. Craver reported evaluations of the non-bargaining employees have been conducted and will report back to the Committee as to how to access these. He said in your packets is a revised Zoo schedule for 2012. The twenty-five cent increase for returning seasonal employees that was approved at Committee last month will have to go through the full Commission this month. He reported the inspections of the preserves for the 2012 season are in their packets. Next month they will have the evening and night security proposals for Niabi Zoo. We have received \$116,000 from the State for the boat ramp at Illiniwek. He introduced Marc Heinzman as the interim Zoo Director who presented his report.

Mr. Heinzman reported that they are working with Estes on the future elephant enclosure sites. There are three sites selected. A site needs to be selected so fundraising and planning can move forward. Mr. Craver stated the giraffe deck repair plans are currently out to bid. The bid opening is the afternoon of the Commission and we will meet before the meeting to go over the bids. The Society has stated that they will assist with the giraffe exhibit project. Mr. Heinzman asked permission to demolish the bear exhibit and one corncrib exhibit. The Society will pay for the removal. Mr. Heinzman is working on completing the AZA progress report which is due February 17th and he will appear before the AZA accreditation commission in late March for the formal hearing.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to demolish the bear and corncrib exhibits. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Craver informed the Committee that for the ADA self evaluation study they will need to hire an individual engineer or architect or participate in the BiState group project bid. He stated the Internet status for the parks is looking good, Illiniwek is set up and waiting on a computer. Loud Thunder is up and running and Indian Bluff is waiting on Mediacom installation. Niabi Zoo is in the process of getting wireless internet to various buildings.

Mr. Craver asked for permission to post the Niabi Zoo Director position on the AZA site with a May 1st deadline for applications.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to post the Zoo Director position. Mr. Dueysen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chairman Rockwell called for a motion to approve all reports.

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

Chairman Rockwell adjourned the meeting at 4:08 PM.

Submitted by:

S. A. Gianulis
Administrative Assistant
Forest Preserve District

