

**FOREST PRESERVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
JULY 14, 2020**

PRESENT: Committee members - L. Moreno, K. Swanson(via phone), D. Cremeens, A. Normoyle, R. Simmer, K. Maranda, E. Sowards.

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Craver, District Director; Louisa Ewert, Treasurer.

Dr. Moreno called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Executive Committee to order at 8:08 AM on Tuesday, July 14, 2020, in the Rock Island County Building in the third floor chambers, Rock Island, Illinois.

Dr. Moreno called for a motion approving the June Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION: Mr. Cremeens moved to approve the June Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

No request for public comment was submitted.

Dr. Moreno called for a motion to approve the Forest Preserve claims and Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$902,249.72.

MOTION: Dr. Simmer moved to approve the claims and Treasurer's Disbursements. Mr. Cremeens seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Dr. Moreno called for a motion to approve the transfers of appropriation in the General Fund and the Niabi Zoo Fund.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the transfers of appropriation in the General Fund and the Niabi Zoo Fund. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Dr. Moreno called for a motion to approve the resolution regarding the General Fund grant from IPARKS.

MOTION: Ms. Normoyle moved to approve the resolution regarding the General Fund grant from IPARKS.

Motion carried.

Dr. Moreno asked Mr. Craver if there was anything from the reports that he wanted to bring attention to.

Mr. Craver stated that there was some storm damage, and staff was cleaning up from the storms. There are currently two employees on FMLA, and one on vacation. Camping has been extremely busy, and golf has been steady. Since the weather has been sunny without much rain, many people have been out enjoying the preserves. There are a few golf leagues starting up. Niabi has opened with restrictions, and has been bringing in some revenue. They're only allowed to be at twenty-five percent capacity right now, and they are adhering to that. Phase four is not set in stone, so there's no way to know how long that will be the case. The camping improvements at Loud Thunder are 99% done. It's just up to the grass to grow, then those sites will be able to open. The new Deer Haven campground was hydro-seeded, and is doing the best on that front. In the Horse Corral campground the seeding window was missed, so the District will receive a credit for that, and staff will likely seed that in the fall. The golf cart path project at Indian Bluff has seen some progress, but it has been extremely slow. Playgrounds at District facilities are still closed because of being short staffed for cleaning, and needing to ensure that less than fifty people are using them at a time. Shelters are opening up as long as the group is under fifty people. Staff has begun working on the fiscal year 2022 budget. The interface with the new POS system is oh so close to running smoothly. The boat docks project on the river at Loud Thunder is moving forward. Before applying for that grant, staff is wanting to have all the necessary permits in hand. The CAB has got the Foundation created, and it is in affect now. CAB sent a draft MOU to the Civil Division for review.

Mr. Cremeens asked how Niabi has been handling the 25% capacity restriction.

Mr. Craver answered that there are a set amount of tickets available online for designated time slots, and that method has been going well in keeping the attendance to the required guidelines.

Ms. Normoyle asked about the well issue at the Riverview Campground at Loud Thunder.

Mr. Craver stated that the well at the Riverview campground failed a water sample test shortly before July 4th weekend. Mr. Mills sent in several expedited samples, each sample containing 3 vials of water, in order to get the required two passed samples in a row to get the well open in time for the busy weekend. Unfortunately, that did not happen as the state seemed to lose the second sample sent in. Staff is starting to troubleshoot to find out where in the system the contamination is located. The well is below ground, and was built in 1966, so there may be some costly repairs and or replacements in the future. The District has been very busy in the camp grounds since people are looking to get out and do something. The weather has been great for outdoor activities this year. Currently looking at the reports available in the new POS system that will give valuable demographic information on park usage.

Dr. Moreno called for a motion to approve all routine reports for the District.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve all routine reports for the District. Dr. Simmer seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Dr. Moreno called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Cremeens moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Adjourned the meeting at 8:28 AM.

Submitted by:
Cassie Sullivan
Forest Preserve Administrative Assistant