

NIABI ZOO OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES FROM MARCH 17, 2016

PRESENT: Committee members . M. Byrne, J. Craver, T. Jarrett, J. Taylor, T. Brahm(via phone).

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Meates, Interim Zoo Director; John Ferrell; Niabi Zoological Society; Mr. Biddle, Schultz & Williams(via phone); Catherine Grace, Schultz & Williams; member of zoo keeper staff.

Chairman Taylor called the meeting of the Niabi Zoo Oversight Committee to order at 5:00 PM on Thursday, March 17, 2016, in the Education Room of the Administration Building at Niabi Zoo in Coal Valley, Illinois.

Chairman Taylor called the meeting to order.

Roll was called:

M. Byrne, J. Craver, T. Jarrett, J. Taylor, T. Brahm (via phone).

Total Present 5

Chairman Taylor called for a motion to approve the March 8th Oversight Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION: Mr. Byrne moved to approve the March 8th Oversight Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Jarrett seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Chairman Taylor stated that the discussion of the closed session minutes from February 16th would be tabled to next meeting.

Chairman Taylor called on Mr. Meates for an update on the Playground and the progress toward opening day.

Mr. Meates stated that two drawings have come through for the design of the playground, and will be having a meeting tomorrow morning regarding pricing for one of the designs. Monday will be having a meeting on pricing for the second design. Doing grounds clearing again due to the storm that happened a couple days ago. Projects are being completed, the new Coins for Conservation Kiosk is in, the ticket booth/gift shop in the small animal house, and many other projects.

Chairman Taylor called for the update from Schultz & Williams.

Ms. Grace stated that five candidates have been interviewed, and the goal now is to narrow those down to two. Those two would be brought back for follow-up interviews.

Chairman Taylor called on Mr. Meates for his updates.

Mr. Meates reported that the Members only Easter Egg Hunt will be the first time for people to see the Meerkat and Porcupine exhibit, and that event is moving forward. Next week will be very busy for the management staff because of PR for the opening of the zoo. Staff has been busy with preparing the zoo for opening.

Chairman Taylor called on Mr. Ferrell for an update from the Society.

Mr. Ferrell stated that there is some paperwork owed to Mr. Craver, awaiting playground designs, getting the x-ray equipment, will be sending out the packet for Monday's meeting tomorrow.

Chairman Taylor called for a motion to go into closed session for personnel in accordance with ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) which states: (c) Exceptions. A public body may hold closed meetings to consider the following subjects: (1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

MOTION: Mr. Byrne moved to go into closed session. Mr. Jarrett seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

M. Byrne, J. Craver, T. Jarrett.

TOTAL YES 3

TOTAL NO 0

Motion carried.

Closed session began 5:08 pm

Return to open session 5:45 pm

Chairman Taylor called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Jarrett moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Craver seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Adjourned the meeting at 5:47 PM.

Submitted by:

Cassie Sullivan, Forest Preserve Administrative Assistant