

**FOREST PRESERVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
JULY 10, 2018**

PRESENT: Committee members - L. Moreno, K. Maranda, D. Cremeens, E. Sowards, R. Simmer(arrived at 3:39pm).

ABSENT: K. Swanson, C. O'Brien.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Craver, District Director; Ben Mills, Loud Thunder Ranger; Lee Jackson, Zoo Director; April Palmer, Auditor.

Mr. Moreno called the monthly meeting of the Forest Preserve Executive Committee to order at 3:30 PM on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, in the Park Office at Loud Thunder Forest Preserve in Illinois City, Illinois.

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

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

Motion carried.

No request for public comment was submitted.

Mr. Moreno called for a motion to approve the claims for the Forest Preserve General Fund in the amount of \$94,175.07, Niabi Zoo Fund claims in the amount of \$130,092.94, Liability Fund claims in the amount of \$6,317.40, Loud Thunder Spillway & Camping Improvements Fund claims in the amount of \$17,999.50, and Marvin Martin Fund claims in the amount of \$1,285.27.

MOTION: Mr. Cremeens moved to approve the claims. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Mr. Moreno called for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$31,752.27.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the Treasurer's Disbursements in the amount of \$31,752.27. Mr. Cremeens seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

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

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Moreno called for a motion to approve the Appropriation Amendment Resolution for the General Fund, and the Appropriation Amendment Resolution for Niabi Zoo Fund.

MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to approve the Appropriation Amendment Resolution for the General Fund, and the Appropriation Amendment for the Niabi Zoo Fund. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Mr. Moreno called for a motion to approve the Dorrance ball diamond project by Musco Inc for \$95,000.00.

MOTION: Mr. Cremeens moved to approve the Dorrance ball diamond Project by Musco Inc for \$95,000.00. Mr. Maranda seconded the motion.

Mr. Craver stated that there are three ball diamonds at Dorrance Park. Last month the Commission approved two of the ball diamonds lighting projects. The company was asked to submit the third ball diamond on a separate bid. The goal is to get the project done between ball season and soccer season. There is money available in the Development Fund, which is to go toward capital improvements at the District's Facilities. The Committee has three options for this project. A) Use the moneies from the Development Fund. B) Use unappropriated funds from the General Fund. C) Reject the project.

AMENDED MOTION: Mr. Maranda moved to use the funds in the Development Fund for the third diamond lighting project. Ms. Sowards seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Mr. Moreno called on Mr. Craver for the Budget Performance Report.

Mr. Craver stated that the report will change because it is the end of the fiscal year and there are sixty days to back date revenues and expenses into the old fiscal year. There is a small surplus in the General Fund to cover the increases to budget that were needed in this last month of the fiscal year.

Mr. Moreno called on Ms. Palmer for the Auditor's reports.

Ms. Palmer stated that the Trial Balance report shows the needed budget increases in the General Fund and Niabi Zoo Fund. As Mr. Craver stated, there is time to take expenses from the old fiscal year for invoices that have only just come in. There are also some revenues that will come in and be back dated into the old fiscal year as appropriate. Most of the Funds can meet the five-month reserve on the Fund Balances report. The District as a whole is up from last year, and that will show very well on the audit. On the Cash Balances report, even disregarding the recent bonds income, the District as a whole is up from last year as well.

There was a brief discussion regarding the five-month reserves.

Mr. Moreno asked Mr. Mills if there was anything he'd like to bring attention to in his Loud Thunder report.

Mr. Mills stated that during the extreme heat and rainy days staff has been working on equipment maintenance and indoor projects. Revenues for the July 4th holiday took a hit due to the holiday falling on a Wednesday and the extreme heat during the surrounding weekends.

Mr. Craver briefly went through Mr. Petersen's report for Illiniwek.

Mr. Moreno asked Mr. Jackson if there was anything he'd like to bring attention to in his report.

Mr. Jackson stated that there were four zoo camp sessions last month. One hundred twenty-five field trip groups have come through this season. Seven zoo outreach programs. Niabi has partnered with Clean Sphere to clean up parts of the zoo. Niabi's Bactrian Camels are currently on loan to the District. The owner is wanting to sell them, and we would like to buy them. The Bactrian camels have been very popular, and they work very well in that area. There are also a mating pair of badgers that we'd like to purchase. It would be \$20,000.00 for the pair of camels, and \$6,000.00 for the pair of badgers.

Dr. Simmer asked if there was a market for badgers.

Mr. Jackson stated that there was, and that's why they cost \$3,000.00 for one.

Mr. Craver went through Mr. Verstraete's and Mr. Collins' reports for Indian Bluff.

Mr. Moreno asked Mr. Craver if there was anything he'd like to bring attention to in his director's report.

Mr. Craver stated that John Fellman of IMEG will be at the Commission meeting to answer any questions regarding the dam inspection. Ms. Palmer has again received the Certificate of Excellence from the GFOA for the audit. Since the improvements to the trail, the horse use has increased. There have had to be some adjustments to the plans for the improvements at Loud Thunder due to logistical difficulties. There won't be as many RV sites added as originally planned. The septic field is affecting how many are able to fit into the area. The plan is coming together well.

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

Motion carried.

Adjourned the meeting at 4:16 PM.

One member of the Committee went on a tour of the Loud Thunder Forest Preserve where Mr. Mills pointed out the location of various future projects. As a majority of a quorum was not present, the meeting was adjourned before the tour.

Submitted by:
Cassie Sullivan, Forest Preserve Administrative Assistant