

Minutes for 1000 Islands Environmental Center Committee Meeting Held on Thursday, February 20, 2020

Members Present: Carlson, Driessen, Gertz, Jakel, Manion, McGinnis, Van Berkel and Van Groll (arrived at 6:51)

Not Present: Hietpas and Pautz

Also Present: Deb Nowak, Maureen Feldt, Dick and Mary Bloomer

The meeting was called to order by Past Chair, Driessen at 6:32 p.m. Quorum is present.

Dick and Mary Bloomer talked to the Committee regarding the concern of 5G towers being installed in the area. They do not want to see nature and the Conservancy Zone be ruined by this technology.

January 2020 Committee Meeting Minutes

Van Berkel made a motion to approve the January 16, 2020 Committee Meeting minutes with the exception to correct the Education Sub-Committee to state that the minutes were received and put on file; not approved. Seconded by McGinnis. Motion carried.

Committee's December 4, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes

The December 4, 2019 Special Meeting minutes need to be amended to reflect that a motion was made by Gertz to give the Director a 2.5% increase in pay and forward the recommendation to the City for approval. That it was seconded by Jakel and the motion carried. Van Groll made a motion to accept the amendment of the minutes and approve the Committee's December 4, 2019 Special Meeting minutes with amended copy. Seconded by Jakel. Motion carried.

January Financial Reports

Discussion regarding when 2019 final budget numbers will be available and questions on the January Restricted Account amount of \$8,477.66. Nowak stated that the Finance Dept. will forward the final numbers when they are available and she will check into the Restricted Account and report back to the Committee. Van Berkel made a motion to approve the January 2020 financial report. Gertz seconded. Motion carried.

CD Maturity Outlook: Discussion on monitoring the maturity dates and rates that are available at the time of a CD's maturity vs the existing rate on the CD to make sure we are obtaining the best interest rate possible. McGinnis made a motion that Nowak, Van Berkel and Feldt evaluate and summarize the Center's current CDs and review best interest rates and length of CD when they come due. Seconded by Gertz. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Nothing to report

Friends of 1000 Islands Report

Nowak reported that planning for the Art Fair has started and that Eric Hietpas and Bernie Kempen are taking the lead with maple syrup making this year. No set date for tree tapping.

Naturalist's Report

Review of Naturalist's report and Gertz made a motion accept the Naturalist's Report and place on file. Seconded by Driessen. Motion carried.

Admin and Finance Committee

The revised 1000 Islands Environmental Center Policy Manual was handed out to the Committee and Van Berkel asked that everyone review the changes that were made and approved by the Admin and Finance Sub-Committee. Will have further discussion on the new Policy Manual at the March 19th Committee meeting.

Education

Eagle Days summary: Overall it was an awesome day for the Center and the Community. Had high attendance and was very successful.

Buildings & Grounds

McGinnis and Nowak met with City of Kaukauna personnel to discuss the status of the Nelson Overlook project. Discussion of cost and not wanting to cut corner on bank study. Looking at City budget and grants to complete the project. Van Berkel made a motion to proceed to request the City Board of Public Works to approve the budget \$515,475.38 to complete the Nelson Overlook project. Seconded by McGinnis. Motion carried.

Old Business

Memorial Wall: Discussion on other options such as a touch screen which the marketing company said is very feasible, but having just a stand-alone screen may not be impactful. Committee decided that more options are needed and est. costs. Van Groll made a motion to create a separate committee of Carlson, Manion, Nowak and Feldt to work on recommendations and bring suggestions and costs to the Committee for review and approval. Seconded by Driessen. Motion carried.

New Business

Nothing to report.

Good for the Center

McGinnis would like to see a prairie established within the next five years on the Hoersch property and will be contacting Wild Ones and Bob Jakel for initial input.

Next Committee Meeting

Next Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Driessen moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. Carlson seconded. Motion carried.

Maureen Feldt
Acting Secretary