

Minutes for 1000 Islands Environmental Center Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Members Present: Gertz, Manion, McGinnis, Pautz, Van Berkel and Van Groll

Not Present: Carlson, Driessen, Hietpas and Jakel

Also Present: Deb Nowak and Maureen Feldt

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair, Van Groll at 6:35 PM Quorum is present.

August 2020 Committee Meeting Minutes

Gertz made a motion to approve the August 20, 2020 Committee Meeting minutes with two spelling corrections. Seconded by Manion. Motion carried.

Public Appearances

None

August Financial Reports

Gertz made a motion to approve the August 2020 Financial Report. Pautz seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Nowak shared the thank-you note from Diana Driessen for the memorial donation the Nature Center sent for Tom's passing.

Friends of 1000 Islands Report

The Friends Committee will meet on Monday, September 21st. An agenda item is to get approval for the release of the Community Foundation grants the Friends received on behalf of 1000 Islands.

Naturalist's Report

Review of the August Naturalist's report. Discussion on the temporary Goat Coordinator position for this Fall. We received a \$3,000 grant to cover the cost of this position. McGinnis thanked the Admin & Finance Committee for all the work they have been doing to update the Operational Policies.

Pautz made a motion to accept the August Naturalist's Report and place it on file. Seconded by Gertz. Motion carried.

COVID-19 Update

The staff is discussing ways to possibly open the building to the public for two days a week and have the cleaning company come in after these days. Also looking at ways to possibly open the building for upcoming Holiday rentals in November and December.

Admin and Finance Committee

Van Berkel reviewed the August 5 and 21st Admin & Finance meeting minutes and noted the building rental fee change to \$75.00 for a city resident and \$150.00 for a non-city resident along with requesting a deposit. Gertz made a motion to accept the August 5 and 21st meeting minutes. McGinnis seconded. Motion carried.

Revised Policies 2.029 – 2.0298. Van Berkel made a motion to approve updated policies 2.029 – 2.0298. Pautz seconded. Motion carried.

New Policy 2.0015 – Goat Project Coordinator Position. This position is funded through a grant and would be four-weeks in length and not to exceed 150 hours. Gertz moved to approve this position/policy. Van Groll seconded. Motion carried.

New Policy 2.087 Company or Group Volunteer Application. Pautz made a motion to approve this new policy/application. McGinnis seconded. Motion carried.

Education

Staff is working on creating virtual programming kits for the schools and revising the scouting program to be a hybrid class where the scouts will complete projects here at 1000 Islands and off-site.

Buildings & Grounds

Remodel of Nelson Overlook. Five large oak trees have been removed. Hietpas asked if the Friends could have the wood for maple syrup making. McGinnis made a motion to approve the Friends to utilize the wood. Manion seconded. Motion carried.

The outdoor donation box is being updated and will be back up before the goats arrive. A new binocular viewer at the Nelson Overlook will be a leased unit and the leasing company is responsible for all repairs if necessary. This is not a coin operated unit.

Old Business

Nowak informed the Committee that the Veterans group tabled the discussion to hold their future monthly meetings at 1000 Islands.

New Business

New City Logo and Brand. We are receiving new City logo window decals for our entry doors as part of the City's new branding efforts. The City is also planning to help promote 1000 Islands and to help coordinate events to bring City departments together.

Good for the Center

The staff is looking at alternatives to hosting the volunteer Christmas party. One possibility is to send volunteers a Chamber gift certificate. Even though a Christmas party will not take place, the Committee decided not to meet in December.

Next Committee Meeting

Next Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2020; 6:30 PM at the Nature Center.

Adjournment

There being no further business, McGinnis moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 PM Gertz seconded. Motion carried.

Maureen Feldt,
Acting Secretary