

Byron Forest Preserve District
Minutes of Meeting
April 18, 2016

Commissioners present: Auker, Brooks, Conry, Hogan, and Ludwig.

Commissioners absent: none.

Staff present: Brunner, Gerke, Gramer, Herman, McCammond, and Tucker.

Guests present: Aaron Vincer, City of Byron.

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm.

Director Tucker removed Agenda Item 13 – Executive Session 2(C)(1).

LUDWIG MOVED AND CONRY SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. BROOKS – YES, CONRY – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AUKER – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

President Hogan opened the floor to Aaron Vince of the City of Byron. Mr. Vincer thanked the board for a great working relationship between the City and the District which is also a great service to the community. The City would like to purchase one acre of land in the quarry to be used for natural fill material only. Mr. Vincer stated that the contract could include a clause for the District to be able to purchase the land from the City if needed for development plans for the District. Commissioner Brooks questioned the dumping of asphalt. Mr. Vincer informed the board that asphalt and concrete are recycle with King Blacktop. Director Tucker stated that it should be fine as long as the District has an “out” clause in the contract. President Hogan questioned the number of loads that would potentially be dumped on the land. Mr. Vincer stated the he estimated 50

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loads per year. Commissioner Conry questioned why we can't just allow the City to dump at that site. Director Tucker stated that Illinois passed a law in recent years that doesn't allow anyone to dump on District property unless strict regulations are followed which included that the dumpsite be supervised. Russell Brunner, Restoration Superintendent, stated that he didn't see any problems with allowing the City to purchase the land since the City was dumping there until the law was passed that they couldn't anymore. Mr. Vincer stated that the City would draft a proposal to be presented to the board. The board discussed the timing of the District selling a piece of land since the small tract by the river was sold recently. Director Tucker will check into the District's guidelines on this. At this time, Mr. Vincer departed the meeting.

BROOKS MOVED AND AUKER SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2016. CONRY – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

The correspondence was noted.

CONRY MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MARCH 2016. LUDWIG – YES, AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES, CONRY – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

There was no President's Report.

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It was noted in the Bike Path Report that there will be another section added to the path around the school and Neighbors as they re-do Second Street.

President Hogan opened the floor to District Department Heads to present their Staff Reports. Todd Tucker, Administrative Services Department-7:20-7:29 pm-He informed the board that President Hogan may be teaching a class at conference next year regarding using drones for marketing. He congratulated the golf staff on winning the Business of the Year at the Byron Chamber of Commerce's Annual Awards Dinner. He noted that there was an article on prairie burning in the Chicago Sun Times regarding a prescribed burn at Nachusa Grasslands. He informed the board that he's working with the Byron Chamber on the "in-kind" trade for the District's efforts in assisting with ByronFest. He stated that the Job Titles and Pay Ranges policy is being updated and he will email it to the board for their input. It will be on the May agenda for approval. Mark Herman, Education Department-7:29-7:52 pm-He reported the great attendance at the Homeschool Bioblitz day where they were counting and identifying plants, insects, and animals. He explained that the upcoming "Inside the Fence" trip to Nachusa Grasslands will be a very rare look at the bison herd that isn't normally available to visitors. He reported on the meeting that he had at the Split Rock facility in Minnesota regarding the museum renovation. He distributed a cost breakdown for the project that totaled \$130K which only leaves \$45K for the deck construction. Sponsorship and bidding legalities for the deck

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construction were discussed. Commissioner Brooks stated that it is important to have the deck completed with the museum renovation to draw rental groups since we may be losing some rentals. The deck should be large enough to be a venue for events. He also informed the board that the Chartwell Agency has completed the “Ask” document that staff will be presenting to potential donors. Russell Brunner, Restoration/Maintenance Department-7:52-7:58 pm; Andy Gramer, Clubhouse Operations-7:58-8:05 pm; Matt Henkel, Golf Course Maintenance Department-8:05-8:11 pm.

Director Tucker reported to the board that staff is still meeting regarding Administrative Procedure Manual revisions. It should be completed soon and staff will begin reviewing the Finance Manual.

The board discussed funding possibilities for the deck construction at the Jarrett Prairie Center. Director Tucker stated that fund surpluses could be used or the \$250,000 in the Capital Fund that wasn't earmarked for anything could be used. President Hogan suggested that the staff be very diligent about getting sponsors to reduce costs and then take what is needed from the bond surplus. Further discussion followed.

CONRY MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION AUTHORIZING
THE DIRECTOR TO USE THE UNDESIGNATED FUNDS IN THE CAPITAL

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FUND FOR DECK CONSTRUCTION AT THE JARRETT PRAIRIE CENTER.

AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES, CONRY – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AND
HOGAN – YES.

The board discussed changing the District's legal counsel. Ancel Glink has 60% of the park districts in Illinois so they are very familiar with what we face as a district. They are very comparable in cost compared to Hinshaw and Culbertson, the District's current counsel. The possibility of retaining two counsels was discussed. Commissioner Brooks noted that staff would need to decide which firm gets what. Director Tucker will check Ancil Glink's references and get a current proposal from them to be considered at the May board meeting.

LUDWIG MOVED AND BROOKS SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:40 TO CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER SECTION 2(C)(5) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION OF THE PURCHASE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE USE OF THE DISTRICT AND UNDER 2(C)(11) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION OF PENDING, OR PROBABLE AND IMMINENT, LITIGATION AGAINST, AFFECTING OR ON BEHALF OF THE DISTRICT.
BROOKS – YES, CONRY – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AUKER – YES, AND
HOGAN – YES.

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BROOKS MOVED AND AUKER SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:54 PM TO
COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. CONRY – YES, LUDWIG – YES,
AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

BROOKS MOVED AND AUKER SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:55 PM TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING. LUDWIG – YES, AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES,
CONRY – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Ludwig, Secretary
Board of Commissioners

JL/mg