

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MARCH 19, 2012

Commissioners present: Breen, Brooks, Cravatta, Hogan, and Ludwig.

Commissioners absent: none.

Staff present: Brunner, Gerke, Hayenga, Heesaker, McCammond, Tucker, and Wolf.

Guests present: none.

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm.

Director Tucker suggested removing Agenda Item 13A – Executive Session 2(C)(1).

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

LUDWIG MOVED AND BROOKS SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AND EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2012. HOGAN – YES, LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

The correspondence was noted and discussed briefly.

HOGAN MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2012. LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – YES, HOGAN – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

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President Breen reminded the board members to complete and submit their economic interest statements. He also reminded them to complete the Open Meetings Act training online by 2013.

Director Tucker noted that the Bike Path Committee is applying for another grant to fund the extension of the bike path between Byron and Stillman Valley.

Commissioner Ludwig noted that Gene Stoll is working on the layout of the extension of the path near Mill Road.

President Breen opened the floor to the District Department Heads to present their Staff Reports: Todd Tucker, Administrative Services Department-7:08-7:21 pm-He discussed the hunting policies that are on the agenda for action. He stated that Mr. Nardi also submitted an Addendum to the Donation Agreement. He stated that these items will be placed on April's meeting agenda so they would have time to review the documents. President Breen suggested requiring that hunters who use District property be certified in Hunter Safety. The board also discussed hosting a large hunt day like other districts offer. President Breen also suggested that the hunters be present at the lottery to win. The staff will consider these suggestions and implement them as feasible. Richie Wolf, Education Department-7:21-7:25 pm-He informed the board that the Maple Syrup Festival went really well but the attendance seemed to be down a little bit. He also noted that we received the salvage permit for the bobcat. It is currently being prepared by taxidermist, Jim Hess, and should be ready for display in the museum in the next couple weeks. Russell Brunner, Restoration/Maintenance Department-7:25-7:28 pm; Todd

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Tucker (for Steve Murray), Golf Course Operations-7:28-7:31 pm; Cheryl Heesaker, Stone Quarry Recreation Park Department-7:31-7:36 pm-She informed the board that the dance classes will be moved to the Golf Pavilion in the fall but the tumbling instructor is still looking for a place to have classes. Due to their needs for high ceilings and lots of storage, it's difficult to relocate them in any of the District facilities.

LUDWIG MOVED AND HOGAN SECONDED A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO DESTROY THE EXECUTIVE SESSION AUDIO TAPE RECORDING OF AUGUST 16, 2010. BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – YES, HOGAN – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

The hunting policies were discussed along with the addendum to the Nardi donation agreement and the Blaze article regarding the lottery to be held for hunting privileges. The board will act upon the proposed hunting policies and addendum to the donation agreement at the April board meeting.

BROOKS MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLICATION OF THE ARTICLE IN THE BLAZE REGARDING THE HUNTING LOTTERY. CRAVATTA – YES, HOGAN – YES, LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

LUDWIG MOVED AND CRAVATTA SECONDED A MOTION APPROVING A

**RESOLUTION OF**

**THE BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 01-12**

***Authorizing support for the Rock River Trail Initiative***

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WHEREAS, the Rock River is recognized as a major natural resource corridor with potential for recreation, scenic and historic trails; and

WHEREAS, President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative of 2010 is designed to reconnect Americans, especially children, to America's rivers and waterways and parks and landscapes; and

WHEREAS, the Byron Forest Preserve District has an outstanding parks system and is engaged in development of diverse recreational opportunities along the Rock River to serve the needs of residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the Byron Forest Preserve District has canoe/kayak landings, fishing sites and beautiful parks along the Rock River for recreational use and enjoyment by residents and visitors and is engaged in maintenance and upgrade of existing parks and recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Byron Forest Preserve District provides guidance and resources to preserve structures and habitats of significance; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Rock River Trail Initiative is to establish and interpret a Rock River Water Trail along the 300-mile river course from the headwaters in Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, to the Mississippi River at Rock Island, Illinois, and a separate Rock River Route on roads within the river corridor to provide access for all to the natural resources, recreational opportunities, scenic beauty and historic and cultural assets of the Rock River Valley; and

WHEREAS, the objectives of the Rock River Trail Initiative include promoting ecotourism and recreational opportunities throughout the river corridor, enhance community recognition of the unique assets of the Rock River and support economic development and revitalization of river communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Byron Forest Preserve District, Byron, Illinois that it herein endorses and supports the Rock River Trail Initiative.

Adopted this day of March 19, 2012.

HOGAN – YES, LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

BROOKS MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION AT 7:46 PM 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

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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. LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – YES, HOGAN – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

CRAVATTA MOVED AND HOGAN SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:16 PM TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – YES, HOGAN – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

BROOKS MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:17 PM TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. CRAVATTA – YES, HOGAN – YES, LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

Respectfully submitted,

Denny Cravatta, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners

DC/mg