

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MEETING
JUNE 15, 2015

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

Commissioners absent: none.

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

Guests present: Bill & Pat Hogan, Craig, Sheri, & Amanda Dimond, Tom Curtis, Tiffany Morgan, and Bill and Cindy Hanlin, citizens. Kevin Henson, Illinois Department of Transportation; O.K. Welty, Byron-Oregon Sportsmen's Club; and David Eder, Rockvale Heights Association.

The meeting was called to order at 7pm.

President Hogan adjusted the agenda and moved O.K. Welty to be the second guest speaker instead of the third one.

AUKER MOVED AND LUDWIG 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 Kevin Henson of the Illinois Department of Transportation. Mr. Henson explained that IDOT will be reconstructing Illinois 2 from Illinois 72 in Byron to Beltline Road south of Rockford. He presented a proposal requesting that the District consider assisting with the funding of a 10' multi-use path that would be constructed along with the new road. The section the District would be responsible for would lead from the Byron city limits to Lake Louise. IDOT would expect the District to share the 20% of the costs including an agreement to maintain the path. He stated that they are approaching business and property owners regarding

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participating in the design of the path. IDOT would be responsible for 80% of the cost sharing, 100% of the railroad structures, and 100% of the right-of-way costs. He explained that the project is not yet in a multi-year program and no funding has been approved. Approximate costs for the District would be around \$30,000 and there would be enough time to budget for this amount from the capital fund if the Board decided to participate. If the District chooses not to participate, then IDOT may build a shared roadway path instead of the multi-use path. Mr. Henson stated that the City of Byron has approved the resolution to participate. IDOT would like a decision from the Board as soon as possible. Brief discussion followed. The Board thanked Mr. Henson for his presentation and he departed the meeting.

President Hogan opened the floor to O.K. Welty to present a proposal for building a shooting range on the Byron-Oregon Sportsmen's Club property which is surrounded by District property. He informed the Board that they are requesting a special-use permit from Ogle County. He stated that the facility would fill the need for a pistol or rifle shooter and this need is growing every year. He explained the building of the range and that the National Rifle Association's recommendations would be followed. He also stated that an environmental study would be completed as well. Brief discussion followed and the Board thanked him for his presentation.

President Hogan opened the floor to Mr. Dave Eder, representative of the Rockvale Heights Association. Rockvale Heights is located next to District property. Mr. Eder stated that the Association is against the Sportsmen's Club building an

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additional shooting range due to the safety, noise levels, expanded hours, and the impact on their property values. Mr. Eder presented the minutes from their last Association meeting to discuss this matter. The Association voted 11-4 against supporting this proposed expansion. President Hogan thanked Mr. Eder for his presentation.

BROOKS MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF MAY 18, 2015. CONRY – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

The correspondence was noted.

CONRY MOVED AND AUKER SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MAY 2015. Health insurance for the staff was discussed due to a 33% increase in the premiums. Commissioner Auker questioned other options. Shawn will be checking into other options for health insurance. LUDWIG – YES, AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES, CONRY – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

President Hogan reported that the staff and Attorney Pirages are working on updating the Policy Manual. The Board discussed the District continuing the “First Reading/Second Reading” of policies. It is not a policy of the District nor is it a statute. The Board agreed that it is good practice to have multiple readings before approval especially if it’s not unanimous. If it’s unanimous, the board agreed that a second reading would not be necessary. The Board discussed the IDOT proposal at this time. Commissioner Ludwig suggested that the Byron Park District get involved.

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Commissioner Brooks noted that the residents at Lake Louise would probably use the District's facilities and the City's amenities more if there was a path. The Board generally agreed that the District shouldn't participate in the IDOT project due to too many unanswered questions and gray areas.

President Hogan opened the floor to District Department Heads to present their Staff Reports. Todd Tucker, Administrative Services Department-8:01-8:06 pm-He informed the board of a proposal by the Chicago Region Trees Initiative asking the Governor to declare October as Illinois Oak Awareness Month. The board agreed to support this initiative. Mark Herman, Education Department-8:06-8:12 pm-He reported that the dig at the He-Leo site didn't produce any archeological finds so we can proceed with the pond project. He also reported on attending the Pollinators Conference regarding the increasing loss of bees and butterflies. Russell Brunner, Restoration/Maintenance Department-8:12-8:21 pm-President Hogan suggested filming a time-lapse video of the pond project. Andy Gramer, Clubhouse Operations-8:21-8:28 pm-It's rainy!

BROOKS MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PREVAILING WAGE ORDINANCE NO. 15-2. AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES, CONRY – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

The Board reviewed the annual report from the District's insurance company, PDRMA (Park District Risk Management Agency).

CONRY MOVED AND AUKER SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESIDENTIAL OCCUPANCY AGREEMENT FOR THE FARMHOUSE BETWEEN

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THE DISTRICT AND TYLER WEIK. BROOKS – YES, CONRY – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AUKER – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

BROOKS MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:32 PM TO CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER SECTION 2(C)(1) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION OF THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING HEARING TESTIMONY ON A COMPLAINT LODGED AGAINST AN EMPLOYEE TO DETERMINE ITS VALIDITY, 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 SECTION 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. CONRY – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

BROOKS MOVED AND AUKER SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:47 PM TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. LUDWIG – YES, AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES, CONRY – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

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BROOKS MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:48 PM TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING. AUKER – YES, BROOKS – YES, CONRY – YES,
LUDWIG – YES, AND HOGAN – YES.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Ludwig, Secretary
Board of Commissioners

JL/mg