

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2011

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

Commissioners absent: none.

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

Guests present: Williams Design Build Representatives.

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm.

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

BROOKS MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2011. HOGAN – YES, LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – ABSTAIN, AND BREEN – YES.

LUDWIG MOVED AND HOGAN SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2011. LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – ABSTAIN, HOGAN – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

The correspondence was noted.

BROOKS MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2011. BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – YES, HOGAN – YES, LUDWIG – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

There was no President's Report.

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MEETING – DECEMBER 19, 2011
PAGE 2

Director Tucker updated the board on the progress of the Bike Path Committee.

President Breen opened the floor to the District Department Heads to present their Staff Reports: Todd Tucker, Administrative Services Department-7:04-7:12 pm; Richie Wolf, Education Department-7:12-7:16 pm; Russell Brunner, Restoration/Maintenance Department-7:16-7:20 pm; Steve Murray, Golf Course Operations-7:20-7:22 pm-He commended Matt Henkel and Greg Welker on the work they've done to keep the golf course in the best shape it's ever been. Cheryl Heesaker, Stone Quarry Recreation Park Department-7:22-7:24 pm.

BROOKS MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO DESTROY THE EXECUTIVE SESSION AUDIO TAPE RECORDING OF JUNE 28, 2010. CRAVATTA – YES, HOGAN – YES, LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

HOGAN MOVED AND LUDWIG SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 11-5 PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2012, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$938,000 TO PAY COSTS OF ACQUIRING AND DEVELOPING FOREST PRESERVE LANDS. HOGAN – YES, LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – YES, AND BREEN – YES.

President Breen opened the floor to the representatives of Williams Design Build to present a proposal for a new maintenance facility. Tom reviewed the mission and goals of the project. He talked about the flow of the maintenance area including the use of the equipment. He discussed the condition of the current maintenance buildings. He

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MEETING – DECEMBER 19, 2011
PAGE 3

stated that he and his staff met with Forest Preserve staff many times to discuss the exact needs of the staff to operate more efficiently. Rob then reviewed the “schemes” with the board through a PowerPoint presentation. He discussed equipment placement and building placement options. Commissioner Breen asked about the location of the parking areas for staff. He also asked about the expected lifetime of the current Golf Maintenance building if we re-roofed and sided it. Discussion followed.

One of the schemes would allow the Expo Building to become a “Volunteer Work Center” and storage for the Heritage Farm Museum. The woodshop would be moved there and the honey and maple syrup processing would continue to be there. Lighting and doors were discussed.

Another scheme divided the maintenance departments into separate campuses. Golf maintenance would move to the Stone Quarry Park area and Restoration/Maintenance would stay where it is currently located. Commissioner Cravatta expressed agreement with the idea of separating the two departments. Commissioner Breen asked about moving the Restoration/Maintenance Department to Stone Quarry instead of Golf Maintenance. Due to the number of staff needing a larger facility, it makes more sense to allow Golf Maintenance to use the Stone Quarry facility since it already has the infrastructure. If Golf Maintenance stayed at the current location, more buildings would need to be built. The road crossing on German Church Road was discussed. Todd will contact Curtis Cook regarding this situation.

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MEETING – DECEMBER 19, 2011
PAGE 4

The dollar amounts for each scheme were reviewed and discussed. It was noted that the 4th scheme includes a large picnic shelter to be located near Heritage Farm and a playground to minimize the affect of the displacement of Stone Quarry Park amenities. Other items would be moved to the Byron School District.

Director Tucker distributed a handout to the board then reviewed it. He stated that the District could potentially lose between \$400,000 and \$500,000 in the next ten years at Stone Quarry Recreation Park at its current operating status of a loss each year. The District would have to spend around \$300,000 in the next couple of years at Stone Quarry on upgrades and maintenance including replacing playground flooring, resurfacing the mini-putt and splash pad, and other issues. The District would also have to spend another \$400,000 on the existing Golf and Restoration Maintenance buildings to repair walls, install new roofs, siding, heating units, electrical needs, etc. These three factors add up to a minimum of \$1.1 million that will potentially be spent if the aging maintenance facilities and the Stone Quarry revenue loss aren't addressed. Further discussion followed. The board agreed to put this topic on the agenda to discuss at the January board meeting.

HOGAN MOVED AND CRAVATTA SECONDED A MOTION AT 9:25 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,

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MEETING – DECEMBER 19, 2011
PAGE 5

INCLUDING HEARING TESTIMONY ON A COMPLAINT LODGED AGAINST
AND 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.
LUDWIG – YES, BROOKS – YES, CRAVATTA – YES, HOGAN – YES, AND
BREEN – YES.

CRAVATTA MOVED AND BROOKS SECONDED A MOTION AT 10:01 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 10:02 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