BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING

OCTOBER 18, 2021

Commissioners present: Baker, Breen, Patterson, Remhof, and Vincer.

Commissioners absent: none.

Staff present: Brown, Brunner, deOliveira, Gerke, Herman, McCammond, Tucker, and Wombacher.

Guests present: none.

The meeting was called to order at 7pm.

Director Tucker suggested deleting Agenda Item 14B, Executive Session 2(C)(5) and moving Agenda Item 12B, PrairieView Golf Fees for 2022 up to 8B, under Financial Reports.

REMHOF MOVED AND BAKER SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

BREEN MOVED AND REMHOF SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021, THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2021, AND THE SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 12, 2021. PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

Shawn reported that the District received its second tax drop. He informed the board that the General Fund and the Golf Fund are doing well. Scott stated that PrairieFire is in a bit of a lull right now but it will pick up when the course closes. Discussion followed.

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BAKER MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021. REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

Scott and Jason presented the proposal for increases in some golf fees for the 2022 season. The increases in the passes were discussed. The increases are partially due to the minimum wage increase and rising food costs. President Vincer asked about passholders rounds. Jason stated that the average cost to a passholder is about $15-20 per round. He noted that PrairieView is one of the least expensive courses in the area. He has heard many comments from the public to that effect as well. Surveys of golf course rates in the state were discussed. Commissioner Remhof asked about Aldeen’s rates. Aldeen is more expensive. Jason noted that PrairieView is a better course than Aldeen. He said that PrairieView is the best in the area. The country clubs in the area are expensive and get half of the play that PrairieView does. Commissioner Breen asked about the increases being enough. Jason and Scott noted that the increases should be incremental over time. Golf trends were discussed. It appears that the trend is steadily increasing. Further discussion followed.

REMHOF MOVED AND PATTERSON SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PRAIRIEVIEW GOLF COURSE FEES FOR 2022 AS PRESENTED. BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

President Vincer reported that he received a complaint from a citizen regarding the District’s neighbors of the Nardi Preserve shooting guns. Director Tucker stated that he’s aware of the situation and has filed a complaint with the State’s Attorney’s office. He will be following up on this situation. Discussion followed regarding the City of Byron ordinances for a shooting range.

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President Vincer reminded the Board of the upcoming State Conference in Chicago on January 28-29, 2022. Let Michelle know if they will be attending so she can register them.

President Vincer opened the floor to District Department Heads to present their Staff Reports. Todd Tucker, Administrative Services Department- 7:51-7:55pm; Mark Herman, Education Department-7:55-8:02pm; Russell Brunner, Restoration/Maintenance Department-8:02-8:14pm-Commissioner Remhof asked about the situation with Bell Bowl Prairie and how they differ from us. Russ explained that they are very similar to us. They have a couple of super rare species like the prairie dandelion and the endangered rusty patched bumblebee. He reported that his crew is working diligently on removing the invasive and aggressive black locust at most of the preserves. He noted that an albino deer has been seen on the Jarrett Prairie Preserve and had a photo of it in Dropbox. Scott deOliveira, Golf Operations-8:14-8:19pm-He reported that they are working on closing up PrairieView for the season and scheduling corporate events at PrairieFire. Mike Brown, Golf Maintenance Department-8:19-8:23pm-He reviewed his photos with the board.

The Golf Cart Purchase that was previously approved was discussed due to staff discovering that there was still a year left on the VISAGE system agreement. The amount limit previously approved was $499,000. To pay the difference on the VISAGE agreement would be about $40,000. This difference will be paid from the 2022 Golf Budget, which will be adjusted to reflect that amount before approval.

REMHOF MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT’S 2020 AUDIT AS PRESENTED. BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

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BAKER MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION DESIGNATING VINCER AS THE DELEGATE AND REMHOF AS THE 1ST ALTERNATE TO THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PARK DISTRICTS TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 2022, AT 3:30 PM AT THE SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS CONFERENCE HELD AT THE HYATT REGENCY CHICAGO. PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

PATTERSON MOVED AND REMHOF SECONDED A MOTION TO CHANGE STAFF AND BOARD NAMES ON THE DISTRICT’S BANK ACCOUNT AND CREDIT CARDS AS PRESENTED. REMHOF – YES, BAKER –YES, BREEN – ABSTAIN, PATTERSON – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

It was noted that the name on the District’s gaming license should be changed.

BAKER MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:48 PM TO CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE

SESSION UNDER SECTION 2(C)(1) FOR THE PURPOSE OF Discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as AN independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of the District that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the

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public and posted and held in accordance with this Act AND UNDER SECTION 2(C)(11) FOR THE PURPOSE OF Discussion of litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. BAKER – YES, BREEN –YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

REMHOF MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION AT 9:47 PM TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

BREEN MOVED AND REMHOF SECONDED A MOTION AT 9:48 PM TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Baker, Secretary

Board of Commissioners

KB/mg