BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING

AUGUST 19, 2024

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

Commissioners absent: Remhof.

Staff present: Brown, Dahlberg, deOliveira, Gerke, Kruger, McCammond, Ross, Tucker, and Wombacher.

Guests present: None.

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

Director Tucker suggested removing Agenda Items 14A-14C, Executive Session.

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

BREEN MOVED AND PATTERSON SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING AND EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2024. PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – ABSENT, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

The correspondence was noted.

President Vincer opened the floor to Shawn McCammond to present the Financial Reports for July 2024. Director Tucker stated that this year’s expenses are $180,000 more than last year at this time due to a 25% increase in food costs and 12% increase in labor costs. He also noted that the loss of food due to the power outage caused by the severe weather recently is included in that increase. Discussion of purchasing generators for PrairieView and PrairieFire followed.

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING – AUGUST 19, 2024

PAGE 2

Discussion followed regarding the new patio at the clubhouse. It’s not as busy as staff hoped it would be. It may take a little while for everyone to know it’s there and available. Director Tucker noted that a marketing person may be needed to promote the District’s facilities. This may be something to discuss with the new director.

BREEN MOVED AND PATTERSON SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JULY 2024. REMHOF – ABSENT, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

President Vincer reported that he will be meeting with Todd to discuss the outline for the next several months before he retires. He also noted that he may have someone from IAPD to attend the September board meeting to discuss the next steps in the director search.

The board set the Tentative Budget and Appropriation meeting date for Monday, October 7, 2024, at 4pm at the Jarrett Prairie Center. It was decided to combine the Annual Budget Workshop with the regular board meeting in October. The meeting will be October 21, 2024, beginning at 6pm at the Jarrett Prairie Center.

The IPRA/IAPD Soaring to New Heights State Conference in Chicago was discussed.

President Vincer opened the floor to District Department Heads to present their Staff Reports.

Todd Tucker, Administration Department-6:26-6:40pm-He noted that the Honey Harvest Festival is coming up on September 22, 2024, and it will be held at Heritage Farm. Halloween on

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING – AUGUST 19, 2024

PAGE 3

the Prairie is October 20, 2024, from noon to 4pm. He asked the board if he could say the Forest Preserve Board agrees with Constellation Energy rezoning their property from agricultural to industrial. The board generally agreed. Further discussion followed. Commissioner Patterson asked if there is opposition to the re-zoning. Director Tucker stated that some farmers are against it but the Byron Fire Protection District and the Byron School District are in favor of it.

Director Tucker informed the board that the three acres recently purchased at Mill Creek may be available for sale to the District. The owner may sell it to us if he can have the trees on it. Director Tucker will work with the owner to negotiate the terms.

Janet Dahlberg, Education Department-6:40-6:45pm-She reviewed her report and photos.

Scott Kruger (for Russell Brunner), Restoration/Land Management-6:45-6:51pm-President Vincer thanked Scott and his department for their assistance with cleaning up the City of Byron after the recent tornado. Scott reviewed his department’s report along with the photos.

Scott deOliveira and Jason Wombacher, Golf Operations-6:51-6:58pm-They discussed organizing a new competition with Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club. They reviewed their report and photos.

Mike Brown, Golf Maintenance Department-6:58-7:11pm-He reviewed his report and photos.

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING – AUGUST 19, 2024

PAGE 4

BAKER MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION AT 7:12PM TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – ABSENT, AND VINCER – YES.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Baker, Secretary

Board of Commissioners

KB/mg