

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 1000 ISLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER
COMMITTEE HELD THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2018.

Chairman McSorley called the regular meeting of the 1000 Islands Environmental Center Committee to order at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 18, 2018.

Members Present: Gadow, Hietpas, Kalupa, McGinnis, McGregor, McSorley and Van Berkel.

Absent & Excused: Driessen and Gertz

Also Present: Nowak, Kenney and Penni Pautz.

Minutes of the November 16, 2017 meeting were reviewed. McGinnis made a motion to accept the November minutes. Seconded by Gadow. Motion carried.

Financial Report – Kenney presented the November Financial Report.

Correspondence ó Penni Pautz was present to discuss the use of goats for managing invasive species. Basic information was given to members. After some discussion, Gadow made a motion to have Penni pursue looking into the use of goats as a way of controlling invasive species on the property. Hietpas seconded. All voted aye. Penni will bring additional information to a future committee meeting.

Report from the Friends of 1000 Islands – Hietpas informed the committee that the Friendsø Annual Meeting was held on Sunday, January 14. Jamie Kozloski with Kingdom Animalia Exotic Animal Rescue was the presenter. She brought a couple of live animals and discussed her rescue operation.

The Kaukauna Service Organization volunteer dinner will be held on February 7. Two Friendsø volunteers will be receiving awards. Merl Sanderfoot will receive Volunteer of the Year and Ken Grode will receive the Lifetime Achievement.

Naturalist's Report – After review of the written Naturalist Report, Nowak informed the committee that the 2018 Eagle Days event is all set and fully funded through grants and donations.

A boy scout has built a new touch box as his eagle project. The wood used to build the touch box came from a Chinqupin Oak tree that was on the nature center property. The committee requested that a plaque be placed on the box stating the scouts name and where the tree came from.

Adm/Fin. Report – No report.

Education ó Nowak informed the committee of the recent media coverage of the Eagle Days events.

Building and Grounds ó The 2017/2018 deer cull is complete. So far, seven of the ten hunters turned in log sheets. The seven log sheets recorded 3 deer culled.

The construction on the canoe launch area is complete. Lunda provided the work at a total cost of \$99,363.

The new paneling in the Wisconsin Room is scheduled to be installed later this month. Hietpas asked about the possibility of having a scout group take down the existing wall cover and install insulation before the new paneling is put up. The committee agreed this would be beneficial. Hietpas will oversee the project.

The recent cold spell has caused ice to build up and cover several areas of the boardwalk trail. The trails are still operational, but should be checked for stability once the ice is melted.

In the last few weeks the Center has had an issue with nuisance animals in the building. A nuisance removal service was called. Traps have been set and monitoring is taking place. The problem will continue to be examined.

During the December 22 emergency meeting, Kenney was asked to get the fireplace in the Wisconsin room evaluated. This was done and the conclusion was that the only available option would be to purchase an electric log insert. McGinnis moved to have Kenney pursue to options for an electric log. Gadow seconded. Carried.

Hieptas discussed options for clearing hiking trails from over growth in the spring, rebuilding support areas under bridges that need it and fixing up the observation deck along the asphalt trails.

Old Business – Gadow reported that no new progress of the formation of a strategic plan committee has been made. This topic was tabled until the next meeting.

New Business – no report.

Good of the Center ó McSorley noted the many accomplishments achieved 2017 that were documented on the 2017 Year End Review.

Nowak stated that 106 people attended the program on Snowy Owls.

There being no further business, Gadow moved to adjourn. Seconded by Kalupa. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Sally Kenney
Secretary