

Minutes for 1000 Islands Environmental Center Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 21, 2021 via Zoom

Members Present: Carlson, Hietpas (joined meeting at 6:40 PM), Jakel, Manion, Pautz, and Van Berkel

Not Present: Gertz, McGinnis, and McGregor

Also Present: Deb Nowak and Maureen Feldt

The meeting was called to order via Zoom by Vice-Chair, Manion at 6:34 PM. Quorum is present.

November 2020 Committee Meeting Minutes

Van Berkel made a motion to approve the November 19, 2020 Committee Meeting minutes.

Seconded by Pautz. Motion carried.

Public Appearances

None

November and December Financial Reports

Jakel made a motion to approve both the November and December 2020 Financial Reports.

Seconded by Van Berkel. Motion carried.

Correspondence

We received numerous end of year donations along with memorials for Florence Brewster.

Friends of 1000 Islands Report

The Friends committee did not meet in November or December. Eric secured a generous donation from Bassett Mechanical for a stainless steel sap holding tank for the Sugar Shack. The new tank should be delivered mid-February.

Naturalist's Report

Review of December's Naturalist report. Two initial interviews were completed for the Site Manager's position. One candidate has been invited back for a second interview and walk-through of the Nature Center building. All Committee members are welcome to join Nowak for the second interview and meet the candidate. Discussion on whether Nowak and the new HR Director (Rachel Audette) can make the final decision to hire without Committee approval. Van Berkel made a motion that after the second interview and walk-through with the leading candidate and once all references and background checks per City guidelines are completed and come back favorable to allow Nowak and Audette to proceed with the site manager's job offer. Seconded by Jakel. Motion carried.

Pautz made a motion to accept December's Naturalist report and place it on file. Seconded by Hietpas. Motion carried.

COVID-19 Update

Building continues to be closed and Nowak is meeting with other City Departments to work on a plan to open back up and provide programming.

Admin and Finance Committee

Authorization to purchase a CD in the amount of \$3,700. Van Berkel made a motion for Nowak to find the best rate possible and purchase a CD for \$3,700. Seconded by Jakel. Motion carried.

Sustainable (Passbook) Savings Account at Bank of Kaukauna: The balance in this account is \$7.13 and Nowak is looking to close this account and transfer the balance to the existing Golden Passbook Account at the Bank of Kaukauna. Pautz made a motion to transfer \$7.13 from the Sustainable Savings Account to the Golden Passbook Account and then close out the Sustainable Savings Account at the Bank of Kaukauna. Seconded by Carlson. Motion carried.

Education Committee

Carlson made a motion to accept the August 20, 2020 Education Sub-committee meeting minutes and place them on file. Seconded by Jakel. Motion carried.

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Rotting boardwalk was identified and has been replaced by Hietpas. A section of boardwalk support along the River was also repaired by Manion and other volunteers.

Nelson Overlook is complete and open to the public. Once the temperatures increase, final touches (staining) will be completed.

Fencing in Upper Woods: Hietpas patched up the knocked down fencing and said if it came down again, to let him know. He can complete more repairs.

Old Business

Nothing to report.

New Business

Diana Driessen passed this week. Nowak will work with Diana's family to create a display in the Nature Center for both Tom and Diana. The family is looking to purchase a bench for them as well. A card and memorial donation will be sent to Diana's family on behalf of the staff and Committee members. The Mayor will post her Council position and will appoint a new representative. Diana was a driving force behind many projects for the City and 1000 Islands. She will be missed by many.

Good for the Center

Eagle Days is Saturday.

Next Committee Meeting

Next Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 18, 2021; 6:30 PM via ZOOM Teleconference.

Adjournment

There being no further business Hietpas moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. Seconded by Pautz. Motion carried.

Maureen Feldt,
Acting Secretary