

Minutes for 1000 Islands Environmental Center Committee Meeting on Thursday, November 18, 2021

Members Present: Breitzman, Carlson, Eggleston, Hietpas, Jakel, Manion, Pautz, Van Berkel and White

Not Present: Gertz

Also Present: Debra Nowak and Maureen Feldt

Chair, Manion called the November Committee Meeting to order at 6:34 PM. A quorum is present. A warm welcome to our new Committee member, Kathy Breitzman.

October 2021 Committee Meeting Minutes

Carlson made a motion to amend the October Meeting Minutes under Correspondence to state whom the donations/memorials are from. "1000 Islands received monetary donations from Verhagen, Eagle Graphics and the Bass Club. The Girl Scout Troup 2206 from Kimberly donated bat houses." Seconded by Jakel. Motion carried.

Van Berkel made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and approve the amended October 21, 2021 Committee Meeting minutes. Seconded by Eggleston. Motion carried.

Public Appearances: None

October Financial Report

Discussion on why Building Rentals are showing a negative balance and Nowak explained that this reflects the deposit refunds to the renters. Eggleston made a motion to approve the October 2021 Financial Report. Seconded by Jakel. Motion carried.

Correspondence

1000 Islands received a Wood Coot Decoy from Steve Gosha. We also received memorial donations from the De Bruin's, Verhagen's and the Welhouse Trust in memory of Ramona Welhouse. 1000 Islands is currently having a Bird Seed Sale that is sponsored by Kaukauna Utilities.

Friends of 1000 Islands Report

Eric Hietpas updated the Committee on the Sugar Shack improvements, which include a cement pad behind the building and the purchase of a stainless-steel holding tank for sap. Chimney repairs were made to make it more efficient and electrical work still needs to be completed for the holding tank.

Naturalist's Report

The 2022 proposed City budget was recently presented to the City Council and all 1000 Islands budget numbers were approved. Nowak had several discussions with Will Van Rossum and other Council members regarding the removal of \$70,000 out of our 201 account due to tax revenue issues. Nowak asked Van Rossum to get future proposed budgets PRIOR to Council approval to have adequate time for review. Van Berkel made a motion to accept and approved the 1000 Islands 2022 proposed budget. Seconded by Jakel. Motion carried.

Nowak is working with the Planning Director to update the City Ordinance (Sec. 1.47) to accept non-City residents to fill open 1000 Islands Committee positions. The proposed Ordinance will be on the January City Council meeting agenda for approval.

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

Admin and Finance Sub-Committee

Van Berkel – Received Nowak's performance evaluations from the Committee members and will discuss them in the closed session tonight.

Education Sub-Committee

Pautz – The sub-committee met prior to the Committee Meeting tonight. Discussion was on if we should continue having goats on-site for browsing sessions. The Goat Committee is looking for input on whether to continue with goat browsing or put it on hold. The goats have cleared the initial fenced in areas and a new buckthorn infested area needs to be identified and the fencing moved.

Eagle Days – Plans are under way for hosting Eagle Days on Saturday, January 22. The National Eagle Center will be here to provide three live presentations again.

Buildings and Grounds Sub-Committee

Hietpas will be the new Sub-Committee Chair.

Old Business

Playground Update – Some Committee members feel that if we do a playground that it should have an educational aspect/component to it. Could the area where the goats cleared the buckthorn be a potential location for a playground and is there a concern of having a playground near the river?

New Business

The 2022 Sub-Committees members have been set. Admin & Finance: Van Berkel, Manion, Gertz, Hietpas and Eggleston; Education: Pautz, Jakel, Manion, Carlson and White; Building & Grounds: Hietpas, Breitzman, Manion, Carlson and White.

Closed Session for Personnel Matters: Jakel moved to adjourn the Committee Meeting at 7:50 PM and go into closed session pursuant to State Statute 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of personnel matters. Seconded by Pautz. Motion carried. Carlson made a motion to conclude the closed session at 8:15 PM and return to open session. Seconded by Manion. Motion carried.

Good for the Center

Electric City Christmas parade. 1000 Islands has committed to participate in the upcoming Christmas parade. Kym Carlson will work with 1000 Islands staff to decorate the truck, etc.

Next Committee Meeting

Next Committee Meeting will be on Thursday, January 18, 2022 at 6:30 PM in-person.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Jakel moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM. Seconded by Carlson. Motion carried.

Maureen Feldt,
Acting Secretary