

Fort Sisseton Commission Meeting
September 11, 2018

The Fort Sisseton Commission met September 11, 2018 at Fort Sisseton State Park. The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm. Commission members present were Eileen Warzeka, Mary Dunn, Duane Hemmah, Sid Schroeder, Karie Geyer, Jim Patrick, Marshall Damgaard, Bill Hoskins, Bruce Prins and Judy Guleson. GFP personnel present were Bob Schneider, Willy Collignon, Lori Skadsen, Lindsey Hildebrand, Al Nedved, Travis Theilen, Jason Tonsfeldt and Ali Tonsfeldt. Minutes taken by Dalaine Pleinis.

AGENDA ITEMS

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

MOTION BY MARY SECOND BY KARIE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING AS PRINTED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

FOUNDATION REPORT: *Lindsey* gave the Foundation Report.

Nomination committee representative Eileen presented the current slate of officers.

MOTION BY MARSHALL SECOND BY BILL TO KEEP THE CURRENT SLATE OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Willy advised the commission that 5 terms will expire in November. He will be contacting those members affected and visiting about reappointments.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ali reported visitation numbers from the summer programs. There was very good attendance throughout the summer.

The commission members will hold a Marketing/Strategic Planning meeting on October 27 at the fort at 10:00am.

Ali updated the commission on the current projects. The billboards have been repaired. The Geothermal Units have been approved in the state's FY19 and FY20 budgets.

The alarm/security system was discussed. Bids have been running \$25,000-\$30,000 for the buildings that already have a system.

MOTION BY DUANE TO AUTHORIZE \$25,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO UPGRADE THE ALARM/SECURITY SYSTEM.

Discussion was held. Commission members felt it was not a good idea to drain the general fund.

MOTION FAILED

A discussion was held addressing reprioritizing where the funds from the current fund raisers should be applied (sound system vs security system). The general consensus was to use any funds raised for a security system. Once that is operational, other projects can be added.

Different avenues of funding were also discussed including the Deadwood grant and Community Fund.

Harvest Fest was discussed.

Haunted Fort activities were presented by Ali. New this year is Terry Fisk 'South Dakota Road Guide to Haunted Locations' author will speak, a Ghost Tales Hayrack Ride, and a Haunted South Barracks with an admission of \$5.00.

Jason presented a design for the Haunted South Barracks and asked the commission for funds to build it.

MOTION BY BILL FOR THE COMMISSION TO PAY UP TO \$1500.00 FOR SUPPLIES FOR THE HAUNTED SOUTH BARRACKS

Discussion held concerning payment for other decorations as well.

MOTION WITHDRAWN.

MOTION BY SID SECOND BY KARIE TO AUTHORIZE UP TO \$1500.00 FOR SUPPLIES FOR THE HAUNTED FORT EVENT. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OPEN FORUM

No public comments received.

NEW BUSINESS:

Judy informed the commission that a replacement commissioner is needed for the Northern Fort Playhouse board. Please let her know if you are interested.

Frontier Christmas is December 8, 2018.

Upcoming events include the Historical Festival, SD Parks 100th Anniversary and the Fort's 60th Anniversary as a state park. Ali has confirmed that the Fort qualifies for a hands-on exhibit from the Smithsonian titled "*The Way We Worked*". It would be displayed from mid-May through mid-August (12 weeks). The cost is \$9,000. She is asking the commission for the 25% down payment needed to secure the exhibit.

MOTION BY JIM SECOND BY BILL TO AUTHORIZE \$2,250.00 FROM THE GREAT PLAINS FUND FOR THE DOWN PAYMENT FOR THE SMITHSONIAN EXHIBIT. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The commission will meet again on Oct 27 for the Marketing/Strategic Planning meeting.

MOTION BY DUANE TO ADJOURN.