

**HOST COMMUNITIES  
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, November 25, 2014 – 9:30 a.m.  
Niagara County Department of Economic Development  
6311 Inducon Corporate Drive  
Sanborn, New York 14132**

**Representatives Present:**

Cynthia Bianco, Superintendent / Chairperson, HCSC  
Chris Roser, Superintendent/Vice Chairperson, HCSC  
Lou Paonessa  
William L. Ross, Chairman, NC Legislature  
Scott Hapeman, Superintendent  
Jackie Siegmann  
Dennis Brochey  
Thomas O'Donnell, Esq.

Niagara Falls City School District  
Lewiston Porter School District  
New York Power Authority  
Niagara County  
Niagara Wheatfield School District  
Town of Niagara  
Town of Lewiston  
City of Niagara Falls

**Alternates/Guests:**

Joseph Jastrzemski, Supervisor, Town of Wilson  
Thomas Burgasser, Esq.  
Michael Risman, Esq.  
Paul Kloosterman

Wilson Harbor Revitalization Project  
Niagara County  
Town of Niagara  
Town of Lewiston

**Staff Present:**

Mary Melloni, Recording Secretary  
Stan Widger, Esq., NPC Counsel, Nixon Peabody (via Teleconference)  
Samuel M. Ferraro, Executive Director/Commissioner - Niagara County Center for Economic Development

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**1.0 Call to Order**

Chairperson Bianco called the Host Communities Standing Committee meeting to order at 9:38 a.m.

**2.0 Roll Call**

Ms. Melloni called the roll.

**3.0 Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairperson Cynthia Bianco led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4.0 Introductions**

**5.0 Niagara County**

**5.1 Town of Wilson Harbor Revitalization Project – Phase 2A – J. Jastrzemski  
(Determined Consistent by NRC on 9/18/2012; Approved for funding in the amount of  
\$220,000 by Niagara County on 9/16/2014)**

Mr. Jastrzemski explained that Phase I of this project was in the amount of \$70,000 which was utilized to prepare the harbor for Phase 2 which consists of dredging. There is a timing issue, due to the fact that there is already equipment and resources mobilized on site as the result of federal Hurricane Sandy remediation. He explained that the Harbor is home port to over 500 boats, three yacht clubs and four marinas. It is a destination of choice among charter and sport fishing enthusiasts. Long-term maintenance is being addressed by Niagara Orleans Regional Council that is working on putting together a regional dredge. The dredging will create a longer boating and fishing season; it also ties in nicely with the Wilson Pathway and recently constructed dog park.

**5.0 Niagara County (Continued...)**

**5.1 Town of Wilson Harbor Revitalization Project – Phase 2A – J. Jastrzemski  
(Determined Consistent by NRCG on 9/18/2012; Approved for funding in the amount of \$220,000 by Niagara County on 9/16/2014)**

Mr. Widger stated that this project meets all procedural requirements. A motion was made by Mr. Brochey and seconded by Mr. Hapeman, to approve the request for funding in the amount of \$220,000 for the Town of Wilson Harbor Revitalization Project.

A roll call vote was taken.

*A roll call vote was taken.*

<i>Town of Lewiston</i>	<u><i>Yes</i></u>
<i>Town of Niagara</i>	<u><i>Yes</i></u>
<i>Lewiston Porter</i>	<u><i>Yes</i></u>
<i>City of Niagara Falls</i>	<u><i>Yes</i></u>
<i>Niagara-Wheatfield</i>	<u><i>Yes</i></u>
<i>Niagara County</i>	<u><i>Yes</i></u>
<i>New York Power Authority</i>	<u><i>Yes</i></u>
<i>Niagara Falls Schools</i>	<u><i>Yes</i></u>

**6.0 Town of Niagara**

**6.1 Town of Niagara Veteran's Memorial Park – Phase III – M. Risman  
(Determined Consistent by NRCG on 1/15/08; Approved for funding by HCSC in amount of \$3,000,000 over five years on 4/01/08)**

Mr. Risman explained that the Town originally planned on moving forward with Phase III of the Veteran's Memorial Park; however, circumstances within the administration caused the project to stall and eventually bids that came in were much higher than anticipated. The Town made a decision not to move forward with the project in a resolution approved on November 18, 2014. To this point they have withdrawn \$2,350,987 and spent \$1,854,259.70 for necessary planning and design costs. They wish to return the remaining funds of \$496,727.30 to their Host Community Greenway fund for use in future eligible projects.

The following resolution is before the membership:

WHEREAS, the **Town of Niagara**, applied to the Host Community Standing Committee and was approved for funding in the amount of **\$3,000,000 over five (5) years** for the **Town of Niagara Veterans Memorial Park – Phase III Project** on April 1, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Niagara, on November 18, 2014, adopted a resolution stating that the Town of Niagara withdrew between 2009 and 2013 the sum of \$2,350,987 to fund the project; and incurred expenditures totaling \$1,854,259.70 to pay for necessary planning and design costs of the project; and has remaining funds totaling \$496,727.30; and does not wish to construct the project and desires to return the remaining funds to the Host Community Greenway Fund for use in future eligible Town projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Host Communities Standing Committee that the Town of Niagara return unused funds in the amount of \$496,727.30 to the Town of Niagara Host Community Greenway Fund for use in future eligible Town projects; and

**6.0 Town of Niagara (Continued...)**

**6.1 Town of Niagara Veteran's Memorial Park – Phase III – M. Risman  
(Determined Consistent by NRCG on 1/15/08; Approved for funding by HCSC in amount of  
\$3,000,000 over five years on 4/01/08)**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any previously authorized funding beyond the \$1,854,259.70 expended to date is rescinded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution is not to be construed as limiting review by the Host Communities Standing Committee of expenditures for the Town of Niagara Veterans Memorial Park - Phase III Project for 2014 or any prior year of the Project, since its beginning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution is forwarded to First Niagara Bank.

***A roll call vote was taken.***

Town of Lewiston	<u>Yes</u>
Town of Niagara	<u>Yes</u>
Lewiston Porter	<u>Yes</u>
City of Niagara Falls	<u>Yes</u>
Niagara-Wheatfield	<u>Yes</u>
Niagara County	<u>Yes</u>
New York Power Authority	<u>Yes</u>
Niagara Falls Schools	<u>Yes</u>

***The resolution was thereupon duly adopted.***

**7.0 Update: 3-Year HCSC Audit – S. Hapeman**

Mr. Hapeman reported that the due date for the acceptance of RFP's for the 3-Year HCSC Audit will be extended due to the delay in mail delivery caused by the recent snow storm. It is expected that the Audit Committee will review the RFP's sometime in January and present results to the members.

**8.0 Any Other Matters**

Chairperson Bianco stated that a proposal has been received from Chairman Ross regarding the Town of Lewiston and a recommended course of action. This proposal will be referred to the Ad Hoc Committee and they will report back to the members.

**9.0 2015 Meeting Dates**

Members were provided with a list of meeting dates for 2015. The next scheduled Host Community Standing Committee meeting is January 27, 2015.

**10.0 Adjournment**

Mr. Ross made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roser, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,