

**A G E N D A**  
**HOST COMMUNITIES STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, May 23, 2011 – 12:00 p.m.**

Niagara County Department of Economic Development  
6311 Inducon Corporate Drive, Sanborn, New York 14132

**Representative:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Don Rappold – Lewiston-Porter School, *Chairperson*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Paul A. Dyster – City of Niagara Falls, *Vice Chairperson*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cynthia Bianco, - City of NF Schools, *Secretary*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Steven C. Richards – Town of Niagara  
\_\_\_\_\_ Kerin Dumphrey – Niagara Wheatfield School District  
\_\_\_\_\_ William L. Ross – Niagara County  
\_\_\_\_\_ Rob Daly, New York Power Authority  
\_\_\_\_\_ Steven L. Reiter – Town of Lewiston

**Alternate:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Chris Roser  
\_\_\_\_\_ Thomas O'Donnell, Esq.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Angelo Massaro, Esq.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Michael Risman, Esq.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Scott Hapeman, Esq.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Thomas Burgasser, Esq.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Edward Alkiewicz, NYPA  
\_\_\_\_\_ Mike Johnson

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**AGENDA**

1. **Call to Order – D. Rappold**
2. **Roll Call – M. Melloni**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance – D. Rappold**
4. **Approval of Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2011 - D. Rappold**
5. **Project Presentations**
  - 5.1 **Town of Lewiston**
    - 5.1.1 **“Toohey Park Project”**  
(\$76,500 – Approved by Town of Lewiston 3/14/11; Approved by NRG 5/17/11) – *B. Rotella*
    - 5.1.2 **“Colonial Village Park Restoration”**  
(\$99,450 – Approved by Town of Lewiston 3/14/11; Approved by NRG 5/17/11) – *B. Rotella*
  - 5.2 **Niagara County**
    - 5.2.1 **“Olcott Beach Carousel Park” by Olcott Beach Carousel Park, Inc.**  
(\$52,644 – Approved by NRG 5/17/11) – *R. Sansone*
6. **Niagara River Greenway Commission Meeting Minutes – S. Ferraro**
  - 6.1 **Minutes of March 15, 2011 NRG Meeting**
7. **Informational Materials**
  - 7.1 **HCSC Project Status Report**
8. **Next HCSC Meeting: To Be Determined**
9. **Adjournment**

**4.0**

# **Meeting Minutes**

# HOST COMMUNITIES STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 1, 2011 – 12:00 p.m.

Niagara County Department of Economic Development  
6311 Inducon Corporate Drive  
Sanborn, New York 14132

## Representatives Present:

Don Rappold, Asst. Superintendent – Chairman, HCSC  
Cynthia Bianco, Superintendent  
Tom O'Donnell, Esq.  
Rob Daly, Special Advisor, Relicensing  
William L. Ross, Chairman, NC Legislature  
Scott Hapeman, Esq., Counsel  
Jackie Siegmann  
Steve Reiter, Supervisor

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

## Guests:

Ed Janulionis  
Hon. Robert Ortt, Mayor  
Chuck Bell  
Jim Sullivan  
Ron Anderluh  
Chris Roser, Superintendent  
Thomas Burgasser, Esq.  
Angelo Massaro, Esq.  
Bernie Rotella  
Marc Smith  
David Kinyon

Carousel Society of Niagara Frontier  
City of NT – Marina at Gratwick Park  
City of NT – Marina at Gratwick Park  
City of NT – Marina at Gratwick Park  
Gill Creek Educational Nature Trail  
Lewiston-Porter School District  
Niagara County  
Niagara Falls City School District  
Town of Lewiston  
Town of Lockport – Lytle Nature Preserve  
Town of Lockport – Lytle Nature Preserve

## Staff Present:

Charles W. Miller, President, NPC  
Mary Melloni, Recording Secretary  
John M. Baird, Treasurer, NPC  
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

Chairman Rappold called the Host Communities Standing Committee meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

### 2.0 Roll Call

Ms. Melloni called the roll; a quorum was established.

### 3.0 Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Rappold led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 4.0 HCSC Meeting Minutes of August 5, 2010

*Mr. O'Donnell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ross, to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2010 meeting. Motion passed.*

## 5.0 Project Presentations

### 5.1 Niagara County

#### 5.1.1 "Kiddieland" by Carousel Society of the Niagara Frontier

Chairman Rappold indicated that this project has been approved by the Niagara County Legislature for \$30,000 and subsequently approved by the Greenway Commission on January 19, 2011.

Ed Janulionis of the Carousel Society explained that Allan Herschel not only made carousels, but from mid-20's to 1970 they made all kinds of rides, adult and kiddie rides and came up with the concept of "Kiddieland" which was adopted by many other amusement parks in the Country, including Walt Disney. Therefore, what the Carousel Society is proposing on a corner lot next to the Museum is to display rides that were manufactured by the Herschel Company in North Tonawanda. They own the rides and lot, however, need support in the amount of \$30,000 from the Greenway to complete the infrastructure of the project. They are related to the Niagara River in that the Company was started because of the wood that was available along the banks of the river.

Q. Where are the rides originally from?

A. Three of the four rides are from Page's Whistle Pig.

Mr. Janulionis explained that this will not be an amusement park; it is an interpretation of both the Alan Herschel Company and the rides will only be used by the public when the museum is open with the hope that young families will become members of the museum. The rides will be used upon buying admission to the museum, or they may purchase a family membership for an entire year. A pavilion and picnic area will also be available.

Mr. Widger agreed that all criteria have been met to bring this project to a final vote of the HCSC.

*"WHEREAS, the County of Niagara, on behalf of the Carousel Society of the Niagara Frontier, has applied to the Host Communities Standing Committee for funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the Kiddieland Project; and WHEREAS, this project was submitted to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for consultation. WHEREAS, the Host Communities Standing Committee finds the project to be consistent with the Greenway Plan. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Host Communities Standing Committee that the funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the Kiddieland Project is approved; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution is forwarded to HSBC Bank."*

## 5.0 Project Presentations

### 5.1 Niagara County

#### 5.1.1 "Kiddieland" by Carousel Society of the Niagara Frontier (Continued...)

*A motion was made by Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell, to approve the Kiddieland project for funding in the amount of \$30,000.*

*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>

*The resolution was thereupon duly adopted.*

#### 5.1.2 City of North Tonawanda: Safety and Access Improvements to the Former Marina at Gratwick Riverside Park

Chairman Rappold explained that the request is for \$300,000, which has been approved by the Niagara County Legislature and the Niagara River Greenway Commission.

Marc Smith of the City of North Tonawanda stated that this project is the culmination of a lot of work. The City brought specializing in waterfronts to conduct a survey to make sure this project would be beneficial to the City. This was an eye-opening survey showing not only how much potential the site has but also what the current liabilities are. Mr. Smith explained that they are a long way from making this a safe place for people to enjoy. Some of the problems are bulkhead stabilization along the Niagara River, degradation, broken and cracked docks, exposed electrical and no place that invites people. The funds are necessary to make these safety enhancements and improve accessibility, create visibility from the Niagara River by improving a run-down small version of a lighthouse, and create some picnic space.

Mayor Ortt added that the property is an extreme liability for the City and expanded on the safety issues that need to be addressed immediately, and some of the future uses of the property.

Q. Which concept is being considered?

A. The general consensus is Option 1—more of a full eatery along the water and special events, however, will be getting feedback from the Council and Waterfront Commission, as well as a public comment period.

**5.0 Project Presentations**

**5.1 Niagara County**

**5.1.2 City of North Tonawanda: Safety and Access Improvements to the Former Marina at Gratwick Riverside Park**

- A. What was formerly on the site?
- Q. It was a private yacht club that leased the marina from the City back in the late 1940's.

Mr. Widger agreed that all criteria have been met to bring this project to a final vote of the HCSC.

*"WHEREAS, the County of Niagara, on behalf of the City of North Tonawanda, has applied to the Host Communities Standing Committee for funding in the amount of \$300,000.00 for the Safety & Access Improvements to the Former Marina at Gratwick Riverside Park Project; and WHEREAS, this project was submitted to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for consultation. WHEREAS, the Host Communities Standing Committee finds the project to be consistent with the Greenway Plan. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Host Communities Standing Committee that the funding in the amount of \$300,000.00 for the Safety & Access Improvements to the Former Marina at Gratwick Riverside Park Project is approved; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution is forwarded to HSBC Bank."*

***A motion was made by Mr. Ross, seconded by Ms. Bianco, to approve the Marina at Gratwick Riverside Park for funding in the amount of \$300,000.***

***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.***

**5.1.3 Town of Lockport Lytle Nature Preserve**

Marc Smith explained that over 100 acres of land was donated to the Town of Lockport and the town also purchased a lot and a half along the road frontage to have a direct connection to the Erie Canalway trail. He explained how they incorporated suggestions from the residents in the area to protect their properties. Mr. Smith stated that this request is to expand the parking lot and build an entrance on the southeast portion of the trail which will require a short boardwalk to enter in.

**5.0 Project Presentations**

**5.1 Niagara County**

**5.1.3 Town of Lockport Lytle Nature Preserve (Continued)**

Mr. Smith explained that a portion of the property is controlled by the WNY Land Conservancy and it will forever be maintained as a meadow.

Q. What is the expansion of a parking area?

A. There is an existing parking lot near the canal for the Canalway Trail and they can add about 20 parking spaces to allow current use of the trail and park.

Q. Does it include signage?

A. Yes, signage, trail, recreational and environmental uses also.

Mr. Widger agreed that all criteria have been met to bring this project to a final vote of the HCSC.

*"WHEREAS, the **County of Niagara**, on behalf of the **Town of Lockport**, has applied to the Host Communities Standing Committee for funding in the amount of **\$94,802.00** for the **Lytle Nature Preserve Project**; and WHEREAS, this project was submitted to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for consultation. WHEREAS, the Host Communities Standing Committee finds the project to be consistent with the Greenway Plan. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Host Communities Standing Committee that the funding in the amount of **\$94,802.00** for the **Lytle Nature Preserve Project** is approved; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution is forwarded to HSBC Bank."*

**A motion was made by Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell, to approve the Town of Lockport Lytle Nature Preserve project for funding in the amount of \$94,802.**

**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.**

**5.0 Project Presentations**

**5.2 Town of Lewiston**

**5.2.1 Lower Niagara River (at Pletcher Road) Comfort Station**

Mr. Rotella explained that the Town of Lewiston would like to convert an unused pump house, located on 18F between the Village of Lewiston and the Village of Youngstown on the river, into a comfort station. The completed building would include bathrooms and rest stop. There is a spectacular view of the river from the location of this pump house and will make a pleasant rest stop for bikers, walkers, etc. The requested funds will cover the cost of some upgrades and engineering.

Q. Will there be benches?

A. There will be benches, bike racks.

Supervisor Reiter stated that this project had unanimous approval from his council as this will be the first step towards opening up access to the river for Town of Lewiston residents and visitors. Two bike trails meet at this location.

Mr. Widger agreed that all criteria have been met to bring this project to a final vote of the HCSC.

*"WHEREAS, the **Town of Lewiston** has applied to the Host Communities Standing Committee for funding in the amount of **\$30,000.00** for its **Lower Niagara River Road (at Pletcher Rd) Comfort Station**; and WHEREAS, this project was submitted to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for consultation. WHEREAS, the Host Communities Standing Committee finds the project to be consistent with the Greenway Plan. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Host Communities Standing Committee that the funding in the amount of **\$30,000.00** for its **Lower Niagara River Road (at Pletcher Rd) Comfort Station** is approved; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution is forwarded to HSBC Bank."*

**A motion was made by Ms. Bianco, seconded by Mr. Hapeman, to approve the Lower River Road Comfort Station project for funding in the amount of \$30,000.**

**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.**

## 5.0 Project Presentations

### 5.3 Niagara Falls School District

#### 5.3.1 Gill Creek Educational Nature Trail Project by Niagara Street Business and Professional Association

Mr. Anderluh explained that Gill Creek Park is a 7-acre park and history of the park is that there use to be a Native American village bordering the creek. It is also known that one of the only survivors of the Devil's Hole massacre used the creek to get back to his home on the Niagara River. Mr. Anderluh explained that the City, School District and a non-profit organization are making this project possible. This project meets all the requirements of a nature trail. All along the trail are various fauna, species of animals, insects, fish, birds, moss. Thus the idea to turn it into an educational nature trail for visitors, citizens and school districts. There will be field trips. There will be markers along the trail that local historians and school science teachers are assisting with to make sure the information is correct. Mr. Anderluh explained that this trail will eventually connect to the Robert Moses Parkway, then Hyde Park and then to Lewiston.

Mr. Widger agreed that all criteria have been met to bring this project to a final vote of the HCSC.

*"WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls School District, on behalf of the Niagara Street Area Business and Professional Association, has applied to the Host Communities Standing Committee for funding in the amount of \$102,000.00 for the Gill Creek Park Educational Nature Trail project, and WHEREAS, this project was submitted to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for consultation. WHEREAS, the Host Communities Standing Committee finds the project to be consistent with the Greenway Plan. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Host Communities Standing Committee that the funding in the amount of \$102,000.00 for the **Gill Creek Park Educational Nature Trail Project** is approved; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution is forwarded to HSBC Bank".*

**A motion was made by Mr. Reiter, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell, to approve the Gill Creek Educational Nature Trail project for funding in the amount of \$102,000.**

**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.**

**6.0 Niagara River Greenway Commission Meeting Minutes**

- 6.1 Minutes of September 21, 2010 NRG Meeting**
- 6.2 Minutes of November 16, 2010 NRG Meeting**
- 6.3 Minutes of January 20, 2011 NRG Meeting**

Mr. Ferraro explained that these are provided as informational only and he and his staff will continue to monitor and report on these meetings.

**7.0 Informational Materials**

- 7.1 HCSC Project Status Report**
- 7.2 NRG Submission & Determination Dates**

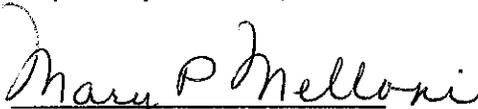
These were also provided as informational only.

**8.0 Next HCSC Meeting: TBD**

**9.0 Adjournment**

Mr. Ross made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bianco, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

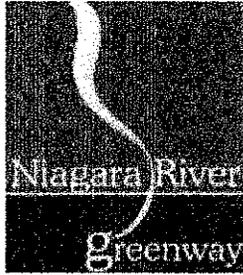
Respectfully submitted,



Mary P. Melloni  
Recording Secretary

**5.1.1**

**Toohy Park Project**



May 18, 2011

Steve Reiter, Supervisor  
Town of Lewiston  
1375 Ridge Road  
Lewiston, New York 14092

Dear Supervisor Reiter:

The Niagara River Greenway Commission is pleased to support the Town of Lewiston's "Project Consultation and Review" package for the following project: Toohey Park Greenway Project. This project was deemed consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan as determined by the Niagara River Greenway Commission.

The project Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project was deemed not-consistent by the Niagara River Greenway Commission. The subjective evaluations were based on the principals, goals and criteria that define the Niagara River Greenway Plan. I have attached the Commission's comments and questions as well as public comments received on the projects submitted during the deliberation timeframe for your use. The Commission is pleased to support the Toohey Park Greenway project proposal and wish you great success.

Respectfully,

*Rob Belue*

R.A. Belue  
Executive Director

Cc: Mike Dashineau  
Host Community Standing Committee  
Attachments:

Host Community Project Number: HCSC-11-06

Date Submitted: 5/23/11

## Host Communities Standing Committee Review Form

### PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION:

**Name:** Town of Lewiston

**Mailing Address:** 1375 Ridge RD

**State:** NY                      **Zip Code:** 14092

### PROJECT TYPE

**Check all that apply:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural/Heritage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land or Water Public Access
<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail	<input type="checkbox"/> Educational/Interpretive
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterfront or Land Based Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Signage	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

**Project Name:** Toohey Park Greenway Project t

**Location:** 145 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street

**Site Address:** 145 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Lewiston

**State:** NY                      **Zip Code:** 14092

**Minor Civil Divison(s):** Village of Lewiston/Town of Lewiston

**County:** Niagara

**Project Proponent Property Interest (own, lease, easement or other):**

own

**AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL**

**Name:** Steve Rieter **Title:** Supervisor

**Business Address:** 1375 Ridge Rd, Lewiston

**State:** Ny **Zip Code:** 14092

**Telephone Number:** 716-754-8213 **Cell Number:** 716-609-0891

**Fax Number:** 716-754-0971

**E-Mail Address:** bjcich@townoflewiston.us

**PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT**

**Name:** Michael Dashineau **Title:** Recreation

**Business Address:** 1375 Ridge Rd Lewiston

**State:** NY **Zip Code:** 14092

**Telephone Number:** 716-754-8213 **Cell Number:** NA

**Fax Number:** 716-754-0873

**E-Mail Address:** dash3640@yahoo.com

***If you have any questions regarding this form, please call 716-278-8760 for assistance.***

## **5.1.2**

# **Colonial Village Park Restoration**

Host Community Project Number: HCSC-11-07

Date Submitted: 5/23/11

### Host Communities Standing Committee Review Form

#### PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION:

Name: Town of Lewiston

Mailing Address: 1375 Ridge RD

State: NY Zip Code: 14092

#### PROJECT TYPE

- Check all that apply:
- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural/Heritage | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land or Water Public Access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural  | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational/Interpretive               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterfront or Land Based Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Signage                      |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                        |   |

Project Name: Colonial Village Park Restoration Greenway Project

Location: 1705 Saunders Settlement Roadt

Site Address: 1705 Saunders Settlement Road, Niagara Falls

State: NY Zip Code: 14305

Minor Civil Divison(s): Town of Lewiston

County: Niagara

Project Proponent Property Interest (own, lease, easement or other):

own

**AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL**

**Name:** Steve Rieter **Title:** Supervisor

**Business Address:** 1375 Ridge Rd, Lewiston

**State:** Ny **Zip Code:** 14092

**Telephone Number:** 716-754-8213 **Cell Number:** 716-609-0891

**Fax Number:** 716-754-0971

**E-Mail Address:** bjcich@townoflewiston.us

**PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT**

**Name:** Michael Dashineau **Title:** Recreation

**Business Address:** 1375 Ridge Rd Lewiston

**State:** NY **Zip Code:** 14092

**Telephone Number:** 716-754-8213 **Cell Number:** NA

**Fax Number:** 716-754-0873

**E-Mail Address:** dash3640@yahoo.com

***If you have any questions regarding this form, please call 716-278-8760 for assistance.***

## **5.2.1**

# **Olcott Beach Carousel Park**



May 18, 2011

Timothy Horanburg, Supervisor  
Town of Newfane  
2737 Main Street  
Newfane, New York 14108

Dear Supervisor Horanburg:

The Niagara River Greenway Commission is pleased to support the Olcott Beach Carousel Park Inc. and the Town of Newfane's "Project Consultation and Review" package for the following project:

Olcott Beach Carousel Park Comfort Station and Kiosk

This project was deemed consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan as determined by the Niagara River Greenway Commission. The subjective evaluation has been based on the principals, goals and criteria that define the Niagara River Greenway Plan. I have attached the Commission's comments and questions as well as public comments received on the project submitted during the deliberation timeframe for your use. The Commission is pleased to support Olcott Beach Carousel Park Inc. and Town of Newfane's project proposal and wish you great success.

Respectfully,

*Rob Belue*

R.A. Belue  
Executive Director

Cc: Rosemary Sansone  
Host Community Standing Committee  
James Sobczyk  
Attachments:



**AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL**

**Name:** Timothy Horanburg                      **Title:** Supervisor, Town of Newfane

**Business Address:** 2737 Main St., Newfane

**State:** New York                                      **Zip Code:** 14108

**Telephone Number:** 716-778-8531                      **Cell Number:** 716-289-6157

**Fax Number:** 716-778-7178

**E-Mail Address:** Tim Horanburg <tonsupervisor@roadrunner.com>

**PROJECT POINT OF CONTACT**

**Name:** Rosemary Sansone                      **Title:** President

**Business Address:** P.O. Box 308, Olcott

**State:** New York                                      **Zip Code:** 14126

**Telephone Number:** 716-778-7066                      **Cell Number:** 716-713-6434

**Fax Number:** 716-638-4093

**E-Mail Address:** rosemary.sansone@gmail.com

**If you have any questions regarding this form, please call 716-278-8760 for assistance.**

## **6.1**

# **NRGC Minutes of 3/15/11**

**MEMORANDUM**

Samuel M. Ferraro  
Commissioner

**TO:** Samuel M. Ferraro, Commissioner, Niagara County Dept. of Economic Development

**FROM:** Benjamin J. Bidell, AICP, Senior Planner, Niagara County Dept. of Economic Development

**DATE:** March 17, 2011

**RE:** **Niagara River Greenway Commission meetings held March 15, 2011**

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The Niagara River Greenway Commission (NRGC) Executive Committee met on March 15, 2011 at 2:00 pm in the Beaver Island State Park Office in Grand Island. The meeting was attended by Chairman Bob Kresse; Vice Chairman Paul Dyster; Secretary Alice Roth; Local Government Advisory Committee Chairman Ron Pillozzi; Shelley Weinreb representing Mark Thomas from NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation; Commissioner Peter McMahon; Commissioner Sean Edwards; Tim DePriest representing NYS Department of Environmental Conservation; Commissioner Emeritus Paul Leuchner; and Executive Director Rob Belue. Citizens Advisory Committee Chairman David Hahn-Baker was absent from the meeting.

The full Niagara River Greenway Commission met at 3:00 pm in the Beaver Island State Park Clubhouse immediately after the Executive Committee meeting. Attendees of the Executive Committee meeting were joined by Rob Daly representing the New York Power Authority; Ron Hayes representing NYS Department of Transportation; and Ray Witzleben representing Empire State Development. NYS Department of State was represented via proxy by Mr. Belue. Commissioner David Hahn-Baker and Commissioner Ed McDonald were absent from the meeting. Approximately 10 individuals were in attendance at the meeting including project sponsors, representative from various organizations and agencies, and members of the public. A meeting agenda was provided for the meeting (attached).

At the NRGC Executive Committee meeting, the Commission discussed the appointment of a new Treasurer to replace former Treasurer John Giardino who previously resigned from the board. Mr. Dyster, Chair of the Nominating Committee that was tasked with recommending a replacement, indicated that the Committee had nominated newly appointed Greenway Commission member Sean Edwards to the Treasurer position. The Executive Committee accepted the nomination and forwarded it to the full Greenway Commission for consideration. The nomination was subsequently approved at the full board meeting and Mr. Edwards was welcomed into his new position on the board. Mr. Kresse said that Mr. Giardino will serve as Commissioner Emeritus.

At both meetings, Mr. Belue gave a brief summary of the 2011-2012 Greenway Commission budget. He indicated that the Greenway Commission has a fund balance of \$462,930. He said that budget revenues include a \$300,000 appropriation secured through the NYS Environmental Protection Fund in the 2010-2011 State Budget. He said that expenses include staff salaries, travel, office space, equipment, printing, and website maintenance. He indicated that the budget also includes expenses for designing and printing a new Niagara River Greenway brochure as well as updating the Greenway Commission's website. The 2011-2012 NRGC budget was approved by the Commission as submitted. It was pointed out that the next Financial Report will be delivered by the new NRGC Treasurer.

Also at both meetings, Mr. Belue gave an updated on the development of a new Niagara River Greenway brochure. He indicated that the consultant for the project, Wendel Duchscherer, designed a brochure that is consistent with the design and color schemes developed for Greenway signage. The brochure will contain maps showing parks, trails, and destinations within the Greenway. He indicated that the brochure will be broken up into sections for the different geographies within the Greenway; The Headwaters, The Upper River, and The Lower River. He said that the brochure also utilizes the themes identified in the Greenway Plan to categorize destinations within the Greenway: The Landscape; The Bounty of Nature; Stories of War, Peace and Freedom; The Wealth of a Region; and Enterprise in the Arts. Mr. Belue indicated that the consultants are examining printing options and associated costs, including the possibility of printing on Tyvek, which is a durable, waterproof material. At the Executive Committee meeting, Mr. Kresse asked about the inclusion of roads on the map. Mr. Belue said that major roads will be included on the maps, but the brochure will serve as more of a trail map than a road map. Mr. Dyster also commented that it is important for the brochure to be durable. Ms. Weinreb suggested developing section maps in the future that zoom in on different segments of the Greenway to show more detail, since the current brochure shows the Greenway at a larger scale. At the full NRGCC board meeting, Mr. Pillozzi commented that it is important to have consistency between maps and signage to make it easy to navigate the Greenway and Mr. Hayes suggested putting the brochure online so that it can be downloaded.

Also at both meetings, Mr. Belue touched briefly on the updates planned for the Greenway Commission's website. He said that a form has been made available on the Commission's website to collect suggestions for improving it. He said that a handful of suggestions have already been received from the public and that the Commission will continue to collect suggestions over the next few weeks. He informed the board that he will be meeting with the webmaster to examine ideas and discuss work that might be conducted as part of the upgrade.

Also at both meetings, under New Business, the Commission discussed the development of a newsletter to keep the public informed of the progress made in developing the Greenway, which would identify: projects reviewed by the Greenway Commission that were determined to be consistent with the Greenway Plan; the amount of Greenway funding dedicated to the project; the Standing Committee from which Greenway funding was secured; how Greenway funding was used for the project; the status in implementing the project; and the impact that the project has on the development of the Greenway. Mr. Belue said that a map is being created to show project locations, which includes a key that contains details on each project. At the Executive Committee meeting, there was further discussion about this effort. Mr. Kresse indicated that he would like to see information on the amount of Greenway funding actually dispersed to the project. He also asked if there is any precedent for a Standing Committee to fund only part of the amount requested. Mr. Belue said that the Erie County Standing Committee receives more requests than it has funding, but the Standing Committee tries to fund as many projects as possible, which means that projects often receive less than the amount requested. He said that the Standing Committee in Niagara County divides its funding up between each of its members in accordance with the funding agreement with NYPA and that each Host Community determines how to allocate its share of funding to Greenway projects. Mr. Kresse said that the Greenway Commission needs to be made aware of all projects that receive Greenway funding so that it can get this information out to the public. There was general discussion about the need to highlight exactly how Greenway funding is being used and its impact. Mr. Belue stated that it is often difficult to get information on the status of projects because there are many different project sponsors. Mr. Dyster suggested putting the map on the website and linking it back to the detailed project documentation that was submitted to the Greenway Commission for review.

At the full Greenway Commission board meeting, a public comment period was held on current agenda items. Kerrie Gallo from Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper was present to read a statement on behalf of the Niagara Relicensing Environmental Coalition. The statement indicated support for the Wild Ones - Pollinator Pathways Niagara Falls project and said the Niagara Relicensing Environmental Coalition finds the project to be consistent with the Greenway Plan based on its strong educational and ecological components.

Also at the full NRGC board meeting, Mr. Belue informed Commission members that they are required to file a "2010 Annual Statement of Financial Disclosure" form with the NYS Commission on Public Integrity as Greenway Commission members are classified as "policy makers" and are required to file this form with the State. The deadline for filing is May 16, 2011.

Also at the full NRGC board meeting, Commission members voted on whether the project on the Greenway Commission's agenda is consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan. A summary of the project was read by Mr. Belue and project sponsors were on hand to answer questions. A summary of the board's proceedings can be found below. More information on the project can be found on the Greenway Commission's website at [www.niagaragreenway.org](http://www.niagaragreenway.org).

**Wild Ones Niagara - Pollinator Pathways Niagara Falls** – Michelle Vanstrom, President of Wild Ones Niagara Falls and River Region, and Frank Brzezinski, Landscape Architect, were present to answer questions about the project. The project involves constructing gardens on eight vacant lots located proximate to one another on or near Main Street in Niagara Falls and developing an education program around the project highlighting the innovative approach to urban beautification, land planning, and ecological sustainability. The project will be completed in phases with one garden completed in the first year as part of a demonstration project, three gardens completed in the second year, and four gardens completed in the third year. The gardens will be created as native plant habitats designed to support pollinating insects. Several of the Commission members praised the level of detail that went into the proposal and said that it was very educational reading about the role that pollinators play in maintaining our food systems. Ms. Weinreb asked who will own the properties. Ms. Vanstrom responded that the properties are on the City's in-rem list and that the following options exist: the City takes and retains ownership of the properties, the WNY Land Conservancy takes ownership of the properties, or Wild Ones' membership takes ownership of the properties. Ms. Weinreb asked if any pro bono services are included in the project and Ms. Vanstrom indicated that legal services are being provided pro bono. Ms. Weinreb then asked how the properties will be acquired and Ms. Vanstrom said the properties could be obtained cheaply through the City's in-rem auction. Ms. Weinreb asked for clarification on whether the properties could be sold in the future for development and Ms. Vanstrom said that the properties will be retained as greenspace. Ms. Weinreb then asked about support from Potter's House, a faith-based community organization located nearby, and Mr. Vanstrom indicated that she approached the organization, which was supportive of the project. Ms. Roth pointed out that the project will be supported by a team of volunteers and asked if a specific volunteer group had been identified. Ms. Vanstrom said that Wild Ones' members and participants in Wild Ones' "ecoscaping" training program will serve as volunteers for the project. Several board members raised concerns about the budget for the project, 45% of which is devoted to administrative costs. Ms. Vanstrom said that her interpretation of the Greenway Plan is that Greenway projects should create jobs. She explained that two part-time biologists will be hired to coordinate the project including volunteers, grants, and education components as well as to plant and maintain the gardens. She said that the project should be looked at as an education project with a demonstration component that will show residents how to create pollinator pathways in their own backyards. She asked that the project be evaluated for consistency with the Greenway Plan and not on the nuances of the budget. Mr. Dyster stated that project sponsors will ultimately be responsible for funding. Ms. Roth commented that this is an instance where the Greenway Commission's comments need to be carried forward to the Standing Committees. Mr. Kresse stated that this is a region in decline and that vacant lots are pervasive. He suggested that using Greenway funding for vacant lots will establish a bad precedent. Mr. Edwards said that the project is important from a tourism, community, and economic development standpoint, but suggested that budget concerns be addressed before the project is presented for funding. Ms. Vanstrom said that she can adjust the budget and even suggested that she could do all of the work herself, but said that if her organization cannot get the Greenway Commission to buy into the importance of native plants and natural landscapes, then it will be hard to get the public on board. There being no further discussion, the board proceeded to vote on whether the project is consistent with the Greenway Plan. All board members voted that the project is consistent with the Plan, except Commissioner Kresse who voted that the project is not consistent. Mr. Dyster, Ms. Roth, Mr. Pillozzi, Mr. Edwards, Mr. McMahon, and NYSOPRHP expressed concerns with the budget in their votes.

At the end of the full Greenway Commission board meeting, an open public comment period was held. Tom Frank commented that the Greenway Plan calls for creating connections to recreation opportunities in Canada and said NYS Department of Transportation is currently studying opportunities to develop international, intermodal transportation systems. He said that the Erie Canal Bike Ride should be promoted with other Greenway events and should be included in a broader discussion.

The next Niagara River Greenway Commission Executive Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at 2:00 pm in the Beaver Island Park Office, which will be followed by the full Greenway Commission board meeting at 3:00 pm in the Beaver Island State Park Clubhouse.



**39<sup>th</sup> Niagara River Greenway Commission Mtg.  
Beaver Island State Park  
Grand Island, NY  
March 15, 2011 3:00 P.M.**

1. **Call to order** –*Chairman Kresse*  
*Roll Call-Alice Roth, Secretary*
2. **Review and approval of minutes**–*Chairman Kresse*
3. **Comments from the Chair**–*Chairman Kresse*
4. **Public Comment-Current Agenda Items Only**  
2 minute limit for individuals  
3 minute limit for Organization Representative  
Total meeting time allowed 15 minutes

5. **Committee Reports-**

*Nominating Committee Report, Treasurer Position-Vice Chair Dyster*  
*2011-2012 Budget Presentation –Rob Belue, Executive Director*  
*Brochure Development Up-date-Rob Belue, Executive Director*  
*Web-Site Up-date-Rob Belue, Executive Director*

**“NYS Commission on Public Integrity - 2010 Annual Statement of Financial  
Disclosure filing deadline May 16, 2011”**

6. **Old Business-**  
*Project Review and Vote-Rob Belue & Full Commission*  
*Presentations limited to 5-7 minutes*
  - *Wild Ones Niagara-Pollinator Pathways Niagara Falls*
7. **Public Comment-Open Topics-3 minute limit**
8. **Adjourn**



# Niagara River Greenway Commission

Beaver Island State Park  
2136 West Oakfield Road  
Grand Island, New York 14072  
[www.niagaragreenway.org](http://www.niagaragreenway.org)

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**For Immediate Release:**  
Tuesday 15, 2011

**Contact: Rob Belue**  
(716) 773-5361

## **Niagara River Greenway Commission Determines Consistency**

The Niagara River Greenway Commission is pleased to announce the vote on project consistency as determined by the Commission for the twentieth round of projects submitted to the Greenway Commission.

Projects were submitted on January 18, 2011 and the votes were taken today during the regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission. The subjective evaluation of projects was based on the principals, goals and criteria that define the Niagara River Greenway Plan. The following project sponsors and respective projects were determined consistent:

- *Wild Ones Niagara-Pollinator Pathways Niagara Falls*

Now that the Niagara River Greenway Commission has issued a finding of consistency with the Niagara River Greenway Plan, project sponsors are responsible for funding arrangements. Funding requests can be made through conventional grant and endowment sources as well as the various greenway standing committees.

The twenty-first round of project determinations will be made on May 17, 2011. Those projects will be on the web-site Tuesday, March 22, 2011. Public comment on those projects will be accepted until April 30, 2011 and may be submitted at the website, [www.niagaragreenway.org](http://www.niagaragreenway.org) or by mail to Niagara River Greenway, 2136 West Oakfield Road, Grand Island, NY 14072. All projects and submission dates for future determinations are also available on the website.

To review the approved Niagara River Greenway Plan and GEIS or to learn more information about the Commission log onto [www.niagaragreenway.org](http://www.niagaragreenway.org). The Niagara River Greenway Commission is a public benefit corporation established by Chapter 460 of the laws of 2004, and charged with the planning and development of a greenway of interconnected parks, river access points and waterfront trails along the Niagara River from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario at the site of the historic Fort Niagara.

# **7.1**

## **HCSC Project Status Report**

**HOST COMMUNITIES STANDING COMMITTEE  
PROJECT REPORT**

Project Number	Project Sponsor	Project Name/Desc	Project Amount	Greenway Approval	HC Approval	Date of Fund Transfer	1st Q 10/01/10	2nd Q 1/01/11	3rd Q 4/01/11	4th Q 7/01/11
HCSC-08-001	Town of Niagara	Veteran's Memorial Park Phase III	\$3mm over 5 years	1/15/08	4/1/2008	11/10/2009	N/A	N/A	N/A	
HCSC-08-002	Lewiston-Porter	Lewiston-Porter Recreational Complex	\$420,000 Annually (11 Yrs)		12/9/2008	1/9/2009 & 2/9/09	Completed	Refer to Audit Report of 6/26/09		
HCSC-08-003	Niagara County	Gratwick Riverside Park	\$248,600	5/20/08	5/28/2008	2/24/2011				
HCSC-08-004	City of Niagara Falls	Riverview Trail Comfort Str.	\$76,475	5/20/08	5/25/2008	3/11/2009			Project Completed	
HCSC-08-005	City of Niagara Falls	LaSalle Blueway Trail	\$105,500	3/18/08	6/25/2008	3/11/2009	X			
HCSC-08-006	Town of Lewiston	Freedom Crossing Monument	\$180,000	1/15/08	6/25/2008	5/14/2009			Project Completed	
HCSC-08-007	City of Niagara Falls	93rd St Replacement Project	\$138,812 (\$55,555 Final)	9/16/08	12/9/2008	3/11/2009			Project Completed	
HCSC-08-008	City of Niagara Falls	Customhouse Interior Restoration	\$100,000	9/16/08	12/9/2008	3/11/2009	X			
HCSC-08-009	City of Niagara Falls	Parks Planning Project	\$75,000	9/16/08	12/9/2008	3/11/2009	X			
HCSC-09-001	City of Niagara Falls	Gill Creek Parklighting	\$101,790 (\$19,500 from 93rd St)	11/18/08	2/26/2009	3/11/2009			Project Completed	
HCSC-09-002	City of Niagara Falls	Centennial Circle	\$335,000	9/16/08	2/26/2009	3/11/2009	X			
HCSC-09-003	Town of Lewiston	Lewiston Pathway Scenic Project	\$210,000	5/20/09	5/20/2009	6/12/2009	X	X		
HCSC-10-001	Niagara County	The Charles Rand Penney Collection	\$176,025	1/19/10	2/18/2010	2/24/2011				
HCSC-10-002	Niagara County	Niagara Co Parks & Signage	\$362,935	1/19/10	2/18/2010	2/24/2011				
HCSC-10-003	City of Niagara Falls	LaSalle Waterfront Park	\$850,000	1/19/10	2/18/2010	12/23/2010	X			
HCSC-10-004	Town of Lewiston	Kiwanis Pk Playground Structure Repl	\$240,275	5/18/10	6/21/2010	6/18/2010				Project Completed
HCSC-10-005	Town of Lewiston	Lewiston Plateau Dog Park/Nature Preserve	\$51,500	7/20/10	6/18/2010	7/9/2010				Project Completed
HCSC-10-006	Town of Lewiston	Sanborn Area Historical Society Improvement	\$260,000	5/18/10	6/2/2010	6/18/2010	X	X		
HCSC-10-007	Town of Lewiston	Sanborn Streetscape Improvement	\$323,799	5/18/10	6/2/2010	6/18/2010				
HCSC-10-008	Town of Lewiston	Welcome Center	\$54,000	5/18/10	6/18/2010	7/9/2010				
HCSC-10-009	Town of Lewiston	Tn of Porter Porter on the Lake Recreational Master Plan	\$20,000	5/18/10	6/18/2010	7/9/2010				
HCSC-10-010	Town of Lewiston	Artpark's Summer Programs Support Lower Niagara River Road (at Pletcher Rd)	\$160,000	7/20/10	8/5/2010	8/19/2010			Project Completed	
HCSC-11-01	Town of Lewiston	Comfort Station	\$30,000	9/21/10	2/1/2011	2/28/2011				
HCSC-11-02	NF School District	Gill Creek Educational Nature Trail Project by Niagara Street Bus. & Professional Assoc "Kiddieland" by Carousel Society of the Niagara	\$102,000	1/18/11	2/1/2011					
HCSC-11-03	Niagara County	Frontier	\$30,000	1/19/10	2/1/2011	2/24/2011				

**HOST COMMUNITIES STANDING COMMITTEE  
PROJECT REPORT**

Project Number	Project Sponsor	Project Name/Desc	Project Amount	Greenway Approval	HC Approval	Date of Fund Transfer	1st Q 10/01/10	2nd Q 1/01/11	3rd Q 4/01/11	4th Q 7/01/11
HCSC-11-04	Niagara County	City of NI: Safety & Access Improvements to former Marina at Gratiwick Riverside Park	\$300,000	9/21/10	2/1/2011	2/24/2011				
HCSC-11-05	Niagara County	Town of Lockport Lytle Nature Preserve	\$94,802	11/16/10	2/1/2011	2/24/2011				
HCSC-11-06	Town of Lewiston	Toohy Park	\$76,500	5/17/11						
HCSC-11-07	Town of Lewiston	Colonial Village Park Restoration	\$99,450	Not Approved						
HCSC-11-08	Niagara County	Olcott Beach Carousel Park	\$52,644	5/17/11						