



Minutes of the February 27, 2020 Meeting

Community Foundatin for Greater Buffalo, 726 Exchange Street, Suite 525, Buffalo, NY

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM.
2. Roll Call and Remarks:
Members in Attendance: Alan J. Bozer (Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy), Thomas Hersey, Jr. (Erie County), Jason Paananen (City of Buffalo alternate) and Carol Jasen Sampson (New York Power Authority). Chairman Bozer welcomed the eight applicants and stated the Committee has over a \$3 million funding request and approximately \$2 million to allocate.
3. Designation of Chairman, Vice Chairman(s) and Secretary for 2019-2020
Ms. Sampson recued herself and quantified that NYPA is fine with whomever the representatives of the three local entities determine should serve as chair.
Motion to name Thomas Hersey, Jr. as Chairman, Brendan Mehaffy and Alan J. Bozer as Vice Chairman(s) and Carol Jasen Sampson as Secretary.
Moved by Jason Paananen, Second by Thomas Hersey, Jr.
Approved 3-0, I-abstention.
4. Meeting Minutes:
Motion to adopt the meeting minutes of February 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes.
Moved by Thomas Hersey, Jr., Second by Jason Paananen.
Approved 4-0,
5. Public Comment (reserved for agenda items only)- NONE
6. Project Presentation(s):
Each presenter was afforded five minutes to provide a project overview, followed up with questions and answers. For each project depicted, the presenter was enquired if their funding request could be lessened.
1) **Buffalo & Erie Co. Botanical Gardens: Expansion Project**
David Swartz communicated the project seeks to expand program space to fulfill growing demand, incorporate spaces that meet functional needs and generate earned revenue to ensure sustainability, and includes amenities that meet visitor expecatations to create a positive visitor experience. The project also

aims to expand exhibit and education space and make connections between outside resources. The overall proposed project is \$19,454,000 and the Botanical Gardens is requesting a total of \$400,000. The funds are being requested for design development and construction documents phase. Applicant responded the willingness to take less than requested amount.

2) Buffalo & Erie County Naval & Military Park (BNMP): Marine Drive Pedestrian Access & Safety Project

Ken Schwanekamp and Paul Marzello Sr. communicated the project focuses on portions of Phases (or Priorities) of the Master Plan, which improve the mid-entry walkway area extending from Erie Street along Marine Drive to the BNMP entry; including landscaping, lighting and trails. City of Buffalo maintains ownership of the project site. The overall proposed project is \$464,374 and BNMP is requesting a total of \$322,500. Applicant responded the willingness to take less than requested amount.

3) Buffalo Lighthouse Association, Inc.: South Buffalo Lighthouse Restoration and Reuse Project

Mike Vogel communicated it is the intention to make the Buffalo South Entrance Lighthouse-commonly called the Buffalo Lighthouse-more open and safe to visitors. The Lighthouse Association is requesting a TOTAL of \$179,000 for safety repair to the interior of the station, continued lantern room restoration, continued exterior sheathing and sealing, repair or historically replace windows and door, and install a removeable ramp. Applicant responded the willingness to take less than requested amount.

4) Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy (BOPC): Scajaquada Trail-Ph. 5 Del. Park Rumsey Woods- Ph. 4 Const.

Greg Robinson communicated BOPC is requesting construction funds totaling \$150,000 to support Scajaquada Trail Phase 5 project in Delaware Park Rumsey Woods and associated services during construction, project administration/supervision and maintenance. Park enhancements proposed in this project will provide upgrades of the existing park conditions. The requested funding is anticipated to complete the Scajaquada Trail/ Delaware Park Rumsey Woods enhancements.

Applicant responded the willingness to take less than requested amount.

5) Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy (BOPC): Wayfinding & Signage Project

Brian Dowd communicated the Buffalo Olmsted Park System Wayfinding and Interpretive Signage Project is a comprehensive effort to plan, design, and implement mapping, informational, and interpretive signage throughout the entire Olmsted designed park network in the City of Buffalo. This project represents a tremendous opportunity to inform and enhance the park user experience along the Niagara River Greenway corridor and to communicate its value to the residents of WNY. The BOPC is requesting \$714,600 to support costs for the design and facilitation and project administration.

Applicant responded the willingness to take less than requested amount.

6) City of Buffalo: Centennial Park Seawall Supplemental

Andrew Rabb communicated identified within the schematic design for the park includes the increased water access and improved shoreline. Presently the seawall at the park has severely deteriorated and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is scheduled to bid the restoration and enhancement seawall project this spring 2020. The Greenway funding request is \$750,000 for this seawall construction project. Applicant rejected the willingness to take less than the requested amount. The Greenway funds will be applied as the required matching funds to the USACE \$4 million share.

7) County of Erie: Shoreline Trail Enhancement Project- Phase 1 Construction & Phase 2 Design

Mark Rountree communicated the City and Town of Tonawanda segment of the Shoreline Trail is the most heavily used segment of the Trail. Largely constructed in the 1980's, this segment is in need of revitalization and enhancement to meet current usage demands, safety standards and to enhance the overall user experience.

The overall proposed project is \$1,827,305 and Erie County is requesting Greenway funds in the amount of \$681,135. The funds are being requested to fund the gap between the required costs and secured funds, and also as matching dollars for an additional grant opportunity that the County has applied for. Applicant responded the willingness to take less than requested amount.

8) WNY Land Conservancy: The Riverline: Concept and Schematic Design

Jajeen Rose-Burney communicated the proposed design efforts will transform the 1.5-mile, 40 acre corridor into The Riverline, an iconic, innovative, and inspiring nature trail and greenway. Before The NFTA owns the 1.5-miles DL&W railroad corridor that will become The Riverline. And the Conservancy will seek a long-term lease from the NFTA for the corridor. The Conservancy needs its own designs to move forward. Before negotiating a lease with the NFTA. The NFTA wants to ensure community support and review preferred designs; and this phase will accomplish both. The Conservancy is requesting \$150,000 Greenway funds for the Concept and Schematic Design phase. The total cost for this phase is \$989,000. Matching funds have been obtained. Applicant responded the willingness to take less than requested amount.

7. Other Business

Mr. Bozer reiterated to the applicants that the Committee's next meeting will entail the Announcements of Awards on Friday, March 20th at 8:30 AM, same meeting location as today.

8. A motion to adjourn was made by Jason Paananen, Second by Carol Jasen Sampson.
Meeting adjourned 5:47 PM.