

**HOST COMMUNITIES
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 – 12:00 p.m.

Niagara Falls City School District

Administration Building

630 – 66th Street

Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Representatives Present:

Mark Laurrie

Paul Casseri

Lou Paonessa

Tom Burgasser, Esq.

Scott Hapeman, Esq.

Lee Wallace, Supervisor, VICE CHAIRPERSON

Bill Geiben

Thomas O'Donnell, Esq., CHAIRPERSON

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:

Jackie Siegmann

Jeff Gaston

Mike Dashineau

Angelo Massaro, Esq.

Town of Niagara

Niagara County Parks & Signage

Tn of Lewiston Kiwanis Basketball Court

Niagara Falls City School District

Staff Present:

Mary Melloni, Recording Secretary

Stan Widger, Esq., NPC Counsel, Nixon Peabody

1.0 Call to Order

Chairperson O'Donnell called the Host Communities Standing Committee meeting to order at 12:14 p.m.

2.0 Roll Call

Ms. Melloni called the roll.

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson O'Donnell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 Introductions

5.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes of October 8, 2019

Mr. Laurrie made a motion, seconded by Mr. Casseri, to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2019 meeting. Motion passed.

6.0 Niagara County

6.1 Niagara County Parks & Signage Project – Krull Park & Oppenheim Park Playground Improvement Project – Phase II – Jeff Gaston, Niagara County Dept. of Public Works (Approved for funding in the amount of \$88,006.66 by Niagara County on 9/19/2019; Determined Consistent by NRCG on 11/19/2019)

Mr. Gaston explained that the current proposal is for the installation of new playground equipment and safety surfaces at Krull Park in Olcott, New York and Oppenheim Park, located in the Town of Wheatfield. Niagara County held surplus funds from Phase I of this project in the balance amount of \$88,006.66, and has approved utilizing the surplus funds for this Phase II of the project.

Mr. Widger stated that the project does meet all procedural requirements. Mr. Burgasser made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hapeman, to approve funding of the Niagara County Parks & Signage Phase II project in the amount of \$88,006.66.

A roll call vote was taken.

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

The resolution was thereupon approved.

7.0 Town of Lewiston

7.1 Kiwanis Park Basketball Court – Mike Dashineau, Director, Recreation Department (Approved for funding in the amount of \$180,000 by the Town of Lewiston on 8/26/2019; Determined Consistent by NRCG on 11/19/2019)

Mr. Dashineau explained that the purpose of the Kiwanis Basketball Court project is to create a new community-use basketball court at Kiwanis Park, 940 Oxbow Lane, Lewiston, New York. They will add backboards, striping and court coloring to this public park. The project seeks to restore existing courts to their original conditions.

Mr. Widger stated that the project does meet all procedural requirements. Mr. Burgasser made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wallace, to approve funding of the Kiwanis Park Basketball Court project in the amount of \$180,000.

A roll call vote was taken.

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

The resolution was thereupon approved.

8.0 Update: Gregory Stevens, Executive Director, Niagara River Greenway Commission

Mr. Stevens provided the members with an update of the recent activities by the Commission. Their main focus since 2014 has been on connectivity from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario, increasing green space along the river and the ecological health of those, community engagement, and once these issues are in place to work on improving tourism and economic development. He stated that they collaborate with the NYSDOT to improve fragmented trails and connectivity. He reviewed various activities taking place in Niagara County and the City of Niagara Falls.

9.0 Any other Matters

Banking Discussion

Mr. Wallace stated that he recently sent out solicitations for banking proposals and was asked for specific details by responding bankers. He stated that he feels this matter should be taken up by the Finance Committee and reported back to the membership. Mr. Hapeman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Burgasser, to refer the banking issue to the Finance Committee for review. Motion passed.

Lou Paonessa, NYPA

Mr. Paonessa explained that the Power Authority's Relicensing website is going away; however, all HCSC minutes and materials are being migrated to the NYPA.gov website.

10.0 Next Meeting: March 17, 2020 – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Niagara County Department of Economic Development/Niagara County IDA

11.0 Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Hapeman, seconded by Mr. Burgasser. Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary P. Melloni
Recording Secretary