

Minutes
Niagara River Greenway
New York State Parks Standing Committee 25th Meeting
September 11, 2024 – 11:00 AM
DeVeaux Woods State Park
Welch Conference Room

Attendees

Mark Mistretta, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Carol Sampson, New York Power Authority
Greg Stevens, Niagara River Greenway Commission
Angela Berti, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Vince Iacovitti, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
John Honan, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Diane Wasik, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Robert Creenan, Niagara Gazette
Shane Phillips, WIVB-TV

Introduction and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Mark Mistretta called the meeting to order at 11:02 am. Carol Sampson moved to have the minutes from the April 11, 2024, meeting approved; Mark Mistretta seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comment on Agenda Item

No public comment.

Funding Request

The following project was deemed consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan as determined by the Niagara River Greenway Commission on September 10, 2024:

Niagara Falls State Park Wayfinding Signage Project:

FUNDING REQUEST.....\$550,000.00

John Honan presented the Niagara Falls State Park Wayfinding Signage Project. The project will complete wayfinding signage design and constructions drawings for parks along the Niagara River Corridor. The parks included in this wayfinding project included Niagara Falls State Park, Whirlpool State Park, Devil’s Hole State Park, and DeVeaux Woods State Park. The improved wayfinding system will upgrade all signage to current NYSOPRHP standards, provide standardization throughout the Niagara River Corridor parks, and properly integrate the Niagara River Greenway Shoreline Trail. The project will include new maps with consistent messaging and graphics designed to communicate, increase awareness and accessibility, and inform visitors along this five-mile corridor. Carol Sampson favored the initiative’s goal of public awareness and great connectivity. Mark Mistretta noted wayfinding to integrate the park/city seamless connection. Anticipated total construction cost is \$4 million. Proposed project final design completion is August 2025 and advertisement, fabrication, construction, and substantial completion by September 2026. It was noted the project may be implemented in phases depending on total project costs and available construction funding.

- Requesting NYS Parks Greenway funding be approved for the project.
- Carol Sampson motioned to approve NYS Parks Greenway funding for the project. Seconded by Mark Mistretta. The vote was unanimous.
Carol Sampson – approve Mark Mistretta – approve

Next Meeting

The Niagara River Greenway NYS Parks Standing Committee tentative 2025 meeting dates are as follows:

February 12, 2025	11:00 AM
April 9, 2025	11:00 AM
June 11, 2025	11:00 AM
September 10, 2025	11:00 AM

Adjournment

Mark Mistretta motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Carol Sampson. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.