

**Minutes  
Niagara River Greenway  
New York State Parks Standing Committee 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting  
October 11, 2023 – 11:00 AM  
DeVeaux Woods State Park  
Room 104**

**Attendees**

Mark Mistretta, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation  
Lou Paonessa, New York Power Authority  
Greg Stevens, Niagara River Greenway Commission  
Vince Iacovitti, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation  
Elle Gaddi, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation  
Diane Wasik, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

**Introduction and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Mark Mistretta called the meeting to order at 11:05 am. Lou Paonessa moved to have the minutes from the August 3, 2022, meeting approved; Mark Mistretta seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Public Comment on Agenda Item**

No comment.  
Attendee/Speaker:  
Kris Naylor

**Funding Request**

The following project was deemed consistent with the Niagara River Greenway Plan as determined by the Niagara River Greenway Commission on September 12, 2023:

**Joseph Davis State Park Site Improvements:**

FUNDING REQUEST.....\$700,000.00

Joseph Davis State Park is located at 4143 Lower River Road, Youngstown, NY 14174. Project site improvements include:

- Improvements to the Main Parking Lot
- New inclusive playground
- Pavement reduction
- Conversion of Park Road into a multi-use trail
- New trailhead parking areas
- New and improved trail connections
- Improvements to the disc golf course

The project will improve accessibility, connectivity and provide more greenspace and recreational opportunities. Greg Stevens forwarding Elle Gaddi the DOT/Parks state trail road crossings design guide.

Budget and funding sources were reviewed. *Greenway monies for the Joseph Davis State Park site improvements to be used toward Greenway elements only (i.e. signage, trails, playground, disc golf) and not parking.* It was noted trails will be accessible during construction. Trail loop and distance information to be incorporated on signage. Project completion scheduled for December 2024.

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

Lou Paonessa – approve            Mark Mistretta – approve

**Next Meeting**

Niagara River Greenway NYS Parks Standing Committee 2024 meeting dates are as follows:

February 14, 2024	11:00 AM
April 10, 2024	11:00 AM
June 12, 2024	11:00 AM
September 11, 2024	11:00 AM

**Adjournment**

Lou Paonessa motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mark Mistretta. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.