

HOST COMMUNITIES

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Niagara County Department of Economic Development

6311 Inducon Corporate Drive

Sanborn, New York 14132

Representatives Present:

Earl Smeal
Paul Casseri
Lou Paonessa
Tom Burgasser, Esq.
Scott Hapeman, Esq.
Lee Wallace, Supervisor, VICE CHAIRPERSON
Steve Broderick
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
Tom Prohaska
Lee Simonson
Mike Marino
Claudia Marasco
Anne Welch
Victor Eydt
Bill Justyk
Josh Maloni

Town of Niagara
Buffalo News
Town of Lewiston – Circle of Honor
Town of Lewiston – M. Toohey Park
Town of Lewiston
Town of Lewiston
Town of Lewiston
Town of Lewiston
Niagara Frontier Publications

Staff Present:

Mary Melloni, Recording Secretary
Stan Widger, Esq., NPC Counsel, Nixon Peabody – via teleconference

1.0 Call to Order

Chairperson O'Donnell called the Host Communities Standing Committee meeting to order at 12:08 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 January 22, 2019

Mr. Burgasser made a motion, seconded by Mr. Casseri, to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2019 meeting. Motion passed.

6.0 Town of Lewiston

6.1 **Marilyn Toohey Park All-Inclusive Playground** – *Mike Marino, Village Engineer* **(Approved for funding in the amount of \$200,000 by Town of Lewiston on 2/25/2019; Determined Consistent by NRGC on 03/12/2019)**

Mr. Marino introduced Jason _____, who detailed the reasoning behind the Marilyn Toohey All-Inclusive Playground. He explained Mason's Mission designs playgrounds that are accessible to all children regardless of their level of ability. The park will also include a splash pad. It will be wheelchair accessible and also feature unique audio visual elements. The proposed location is on the grounds of Village Hall at 145 North Fourth Street. Completion is expected early summer 2019.

In addition to seeking support from the Town of Lewiston Greenway funds, the Village has reached out to local clubs, business organization and citizens to support the project. The Village also anticipates receiving a Municipal SAM Grant of \$250,000 to support the project in the future. The Village DPW will provide constructions support and the Village will operate and maintain the playground.

Mr. Widger stated that the project does meet all procedural requirements. Mr. Broderick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Casseri, to approve funding of the Marilyn Toohey Park All-Inclusive Playground project in the amount of \$200,000.

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.

6.2 **Lewiston Circle of Honor Veteran's Memorial** – *Lee Simonson, Volunteer* **(Approved for funding in the amount of \$100,000 by Town of Lewiston on 1/07/2019; Determined Consistent by NRGC on 03/12/2019)**

Mr. Simonson explained that the Circle of Honor Veterans Memorial improve the community's recognition and appreciation for those military veterans who honorably served this nation by replacing the existing memorial at Academy Park. Until now, the names of veterans on the existing memorial were severely restricted to those who were born in Lewiston or were members of the local VFW. The Circle of Honor will be more inclusive and open to veterans who have been born, raised, educated or who have lived or worked in the Village or Town of Lewiston. Veterans will be eligible who have served since the American Revolution, enhancing the significance of the War of 1812 when Lewiston and Western New York were overrun and controlled by enemy forces.

The total project cost is \$200,000; \$32,000 of which is private funding. They are in the midst of a fundraising campaign to secure additional funding to meet their goal. They are also requesting additional funding from Niagara County and will return to this body for further approval on that request.

6.2 Lewiston Circle of Honor Veteran's Memorial (Continued...)

Mr. Widger stated that the project does meet all procedural requirements. Mr. Broderick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hapeman, to approve funding of the Circle of Honor Veterans Memorial project in the amount of \$100,000.

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.

7.0 Any other Matters

8.0 Next Meeting: March 19, 2019 – 12:00 p.m.

9.0 Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Hapeman, seconded by Mr. Burgasser. Meeting adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary P. Melloni
Recording Secretary