

Minutes of the Executive Committee
Of the
Niagara River Greenway Commission
Beaver Island State Park
November 18, 2008 @ 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chairman Robert Kresse at 1:41 p.m. and the roll was called by the Secretary Paul Leuchner. A quorum of members was present.

Attendees: Robert Kresse, Chairman
Richard Soluri, Vice-Chairman
Paul Leuchner, Secretary
Jason LaMonaco, for Commissioner Ron Pilozzi, LGAC Chairman
Mark Thomas, New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Ron Hayes, New York State Department of Transportation
Rob Belue, Executive Director, Niagara River Greenway Commission

Absent: Commissioner John Giardino, Treasurer
Commissioner Paul Dyster, CAC Chairman

Minutes

The minutes of the October 21, 2008 meeting of the Executive Committee were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Richard Soluri and seconded by Paul Leuchner. The minutes were approved unanimously as submitted.

Financial Report

Executive Director Rob Belue reported on behalf of Treasurer John Giardino who was absent. As of October 30, 2008 there is a balance of approximately \$ 98,500. The Executive Director summarized his on going efforts to get funding for the next fiscal year.

Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC)

Executive Director Rob Belue reported on behalf of Commissioner Ron Pilozzi who was absent. He announced that there will be a meeting of the LGAC on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 3:00 pm at the Beaver Island State Park Office. During this meeting there will be a review and discussion of sign standards for the Niagara River Greenway.

Adaptive Paddle Sports Launch

Commissioner Paul Leuchner reported on his discussions and meetings related to the proposed installation of a launch facility for canoes and kayaks at the East River Marsh Restoration Project in Beaver Island State Park. The design selected is similar to a prototype that is in operation in St. Claire County, Michigan and is expected to cost about \$25,000. Patrick Welch, Director of Erie County Veteran's Services has already endorsed the project.

Commissioner Leuchner noted that this type of launch system could be established throughout the Niagara River Greenway. He noted that a presentation was being developed that will be presented to the New York State Parks Standing Committee.

Other Business

Executive director Rob Belue suggested that future meetings of the Executive Committee start at 2:00 pm instead of 1:30 pm. There was general agreement that this change is needed. A motion to change the start time to 2:00 pm was made by Mark Thomas and seconded by Commissioner Richard Soluri.

Commissioner Paul Leuchner suggested the meeting scheduled for December 16, 2008 be canceled unless there was a pressing need to conduct Commission business. A motion to cancel the meeting was made by Mark Thomas and seconded by Commissioner Paul Leuchner. The motion was approved unanimously and the record will reflect that the meeting of the Executive Meeting scheduled for December 16, 2008 is cancelled on a one time basis.

Executive Director Rob Belue reported that a letter of endorsement had been sent out to the organizers of the 2009 Boundary Waters Celebration. The letter invites the organizers to submit a request for a determination of consistency. It is expected that the request will be submitted during the next round of project review.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting of the Executive Committee was made by Paul Leuchner and seconded by Mark Thomas. The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Paul G. Leuchner, Secretary
Niagara River Greenway Commission