

Minutes of the Executive Committee
Of the
Niagara River Greenway Commission
Beaver Island State Park
March 20, 2007 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chairman Robert Kresse at 5:23 pm.

Attendees: Robert Kresse, Chairman
Richard Soluri, Commission Member
Paul Leuchner, Commission Member
Paul Dyster, Commission Member
Dominic Jacangelo, representing NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP)
Rob Belue, Executive Director, Niagara River Greenway Commission
Ed Rutkowski, NYSOPRHP
Ray Goll, NYSOPRHP

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of February 27, 2007 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Paul Dyster and seconded by Dominic Jacangelo. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Plan Management Committee

Dominic Jacangelo reported on behalf of Chairman John Giardino. He briefed everyone on the timeline for the remaining process leading to the decision to approve the Niagara River Greenway Plan. The efforts of the Plan Management Committee members particularly Paul Dyster, Paul Leuchner and Chris Schoepflin were acknowledged with appreciation. The team of Wendel Duchscherer was also thanked for their skill and support in developing the draft plan. Finally, he expressed appreciation for the leadership, support, cooperation and teamwork by Chairman Robert Kresse and Executive Director Rob Belue.

Status of Municipal Approvals

Rob Belue reported that as of today all thirteen municipalities within the Niagara River Greenway had approved the Niagara River Greenway Plan. Paul Leuchner reported that out of all of the members of the various municipal boards and councils within the Niagara River Greenway only one official from the Village of Lewiston voted against the plan.

Finance Committee

Paul Leuchner presented the fourth quarter Finance Committee report on behalf of Treasurer John Giardino. As the fiscal year ends (3/31/07) total expenditures were reported to be \$59,968, about \$70,532 below budget. A motion to accept the Finance Committee

report was made by Dick Soluri and seconded by Paul Dyster. The motion carried unanimously.

The fiscal year 2007-2008 budget was reviewed line by line. The total expenditures budgeted for this fiscal year was reported to be \$300,000. Budget income was not reported since anticipated revenue sources had not yet been fully confirmed and funding discussions were still underway. With regard to available funding Paul Leuchner noted that there would be a carry-over from the 2006-2007 budget of approximately \$110,000. Rob Belue confirmed this amount and noted that Wendel Duchscherer would not be submitting any additional change orders.

At this point Richard Soluri made a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Paul Leuchner and approved unanimously. Following discussion, a motion to come out of executive session was made by Paul Leuchner and seconded by Richard Soluri. The motion carried and the meeting of the Executive Committee resumed. Paul Dyster noted for the record that no votes were taken during executive session.

A motion was made by Dominic Jacangelo to accept the report of the Finance Committee and the Chair who is the Treasurer of the Niagara River Greenway Commission and to adopt a 2007-2008 Budget as recommended, keeping in mind the resources available to fulfill that budget. The motion was seconded by Richard Soluri and approved unanimously.

A motion on behalf of the Executive Committee was made by Dominic Jacangelo and seconded by Paul Leuchner to authorize the Chairman of the Niagara River Greenway Commission with the assistance of a temporary Personnel Committee consisting of the Commission Treasurer and Secretary, to negotiate terms and conditions with Rob Belue for appointment as the permanent Executive Director of the Niagara River Greenway Commission. Such terms and conditions must be achievable within the resources available to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for compensation. The motion was seconded by Paul Leuchner and carried unanimously.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Dominic Jacangelo reported on the remaining steps that are required before the Niagara River Greenway Plan is adopted by the Commissioner of the NYSOPRHP. There will be a "consideration period" that will last for ten days followed by a review of the plan that may take about 60 days. He noted that the process should conclude on or about May 20, 2007. In the interim the education of the public about the Niagara River Greenway Plan will continue and in this regard he briefed the Executive Committee on a new graphic that he prepared that outlined the essential elements of the greenway plan.

Dominic Jacangelo reminded the Committee that the Niagara River Greenway Commission is nearing the end of its second year and that work must begin on the required annual

report. This report should be completed by June 2007. In addition, an Audit Committee should be appointed to review the expenditures of the fiscal year that is about to close. The results of this audit should be included in the annual report of the Niagara River Greenway Commission. The next meeting of the Niagara River Greenway Commission will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2007 at Beaver Island State Park.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Leuchner and seconded by Dominic Jacangelo. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Paul G. Leuchner, Secretary