

CCPC Minutes

02-22-2024

Members present: Bob Franzen, Tom Erlandson, Jacob Bodway, Steve Sandberg, Bob Dando, Martha Anderson,

Guests: Justin Rader, Jamie Reynolds, Pat Smith, Bob Scutter, Twan Leenders, Liza Bobseine, Emma Cook

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 by Bob Franzen at the CC Airport conference room.

The minutes of the 2-25 meeting had been emailed to all, and the corrections made. They were approved.

Discussion was held on possible new members for the Commission. Twan Leenders expressed interest, and this will be sent to the Legislature for approval. Jacob will also contact Denise Emory, a frequent user of our trails, to see if she is interested.

Justin presented the operations report. The bridge near Harris Hollow Rd. application has been sent to NYSDEC. The 28- mile creek bridge design is near completion. The timber sale at Luensman Park is slated to go to bid this spring. The access improvements are completed, and timber marking will begin soon. 11% of the operating budget has been expensed. The capitol projects-Luensman bathroom work will continue, and Eggleston Hill parking lot is next on the list to start.

Jamie Rater presented a thorough power point review of the Chautauqua County properties, Parks and trails, Reforestation, Airport, Landfill, and a list of other County owned properties. The report showed areas and acreage for each property. He continues to work with the landowners on the purchase of the Arkwright property.

Jacob stated there will be 2 courses this summer for the chain saw certification. May 13 &14 and August 21 & 22. He has applied for \$95,000 in grants for trail development and improvements. He also questioned the Park Rd. in Arkwright and possible clearing of the road for a trail, but that property is not county owned, it is DEC and town.

Discussion was held regarding the lack of personnel employed by the county and assigned to Parks and trails. Jacob has drafted a letter to present to the Legislature endorsed by CCPC requesting another full-time employee dedicated to Parks. He will create a power point and bring it to the March meeting for us all to review. We will then go to the Legislature meeting in April with our request. One man and 3 seasonal employees are unable to keep up with all our trails and parks maintenance.

Our new Parks Legislative Representative, Bob Scooter introduced himself and stated he asked to be placed as our Rep in the Legislature because he is very interested in our parks and trails and what they bring to the county. He encouraged us to contact him and ask for needs and wants at any time and said he will help us in any way he is able.

The parks will open for the day April 8 for the eclipse, and then close until May.

Liza B. from DEC informed us that if we see garbage dumped on or near a trail, we can call the DEC who will come check it out for identifying information.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm

The next meeting will be March 28 at 4:00pm at the Airport