

CCPC Minutes

03-25-2024

Members present: Bob Franzen, Jacob Bodway, Steve Sandberg, Bob Dando, Dottie Lauricello, Martha Anderson

Guests: Justin Rader, Jamie Reynolds, Pat Smith, Cortney Domst, Tim Card, Dan McCanna

Stephanie and Don Banaszak, Cheryl and Dann Gulvin, Jane and Joe McMaster, Michelle, Dariel and Michelle Woltz

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

The minutes of the 2-24 meeting had been emailed to all. Spelling corrections noted. They were approved.

Justin presented the Parks operation report as follows- Parks remain closed. Erlandson park will be opened for Easter Sunday sunrise service March 31. The gatekeeper has renewed the contract for Erlandson. The parks will be open on April 8th for the day for the total solar Eclipse, and eclipse glasses will be available at each park for viewers who need them. . The port-a-potty has been delivered to Luensman. The interior work on the bathroom will resume in the near future. The timber contract at Luensman is going to bid soon and timber has been marked. The logging access road has been put in from Farr Rd. The Eggleston Hill Rd parking lot work has begun. The bridge for the creek near Harris Hollow Rd for the East Overland Trail is in the shop, permit filed, and work will begin soon. The purchase of the 41.1-acre Arkwright property continues, and paperwork is with the law dept. The budget remains the same with 7% expensed. There has been approval for a new full-time hire for Parks Dept giving us 2 full-time, and 4 seasonal employees(if we get applications enough to fill the positions)

Jacob reported that funding has been received from Buffalo Community Foundation, and a donation from HIKE WNY totaling \$28,000. There are grant proposals totaling \$117,500 for work on the trails with 3 different groups. The estimate for the work proposed near Bates, Stebbins, Rte. 474, and Titus Roads. The all-county trails map will be out in April and available on the Venza app. The chainsaw program is filling up for May. Jacob also stated that Olivia Lee from the County contacted him with a list of commission members who need to update the annual Ethics training. The proper paperwork all be forwarded to all, completed, and sent to the County.

Dan McCanna was present as a potential new Parks Commission member. He will complete the paperwork required and his name and Twan Leenders will be sent to the County Legislature.

May 4th- opening day for our parks the Workers Memorial will be held at Erlandson Park. There are 10 new bricks to be installed there and will be delivered to the DPW in Falconer so they can be installed when time is available.

Several Chautauqua County residents (8) came to the meeting with concerns over the recent work in the woods at Luensman Park. They are frequent users of the park and park trails all through the year. They were very upset to see the area where the road has been placed and the condition of the area and trees, destruction of the old growth forest and how many trees are marked to be removed. A lengthy discussion was held with all present regarding the county Forest management plan and timbering bids, who does the recommendations for the cutting and how trees are marked. It was decided to have Bruce Robinson, Forestry consultant, and possibly Theresa Draves DEC Forrester to come and speak with all at the next meeting in April regarding this issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for April 25 at 4pm at the CC Airport conference room.