

**MINUTES: Parks Commission**  
**Wednesday, January 23, 2019 6:30 PM**

**Location: Joseph F. Karpinski Sr. Educational Center at the Ward O'Hara Agricultural Museum**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Doug Dello Stritto. The following members were in attendance: Joe DeForest, Aileen McNabb – Coleman, Kristina Sherman, Brian Soper, Jean Saroodis

Others in attendance – Tim Quill, David Gardner, Charlie Ripley

Excused: Jim Young, Connie Rielley

1. *Approve/Correct Minutes (attached) from the December 3, 2018 meeting.* Motion J. Saroodis, 2<sup>nd</sup> A. McNabb-Coleman

- D. Dello Stritto introduced David Gardner, Director of Public Works for Cayuga County

2. *We had no resolutions for December or January.*

3. *February Resolutions:*

- A. *Resolution to hire seasonal employees for 2019.* J. Deforest: What is the status of the Assistant Park Maintenance Supervisor? D. Dello Stritto –The Part Time role was not funded in the 2019 budget. The Parks Dept will include in this resolution a seasonal Assistant Park Maintenance Super. To assist with HR and staff management from April – Sept/Oct. J. Deforest – Will this reduce a building maintenance or other position? D. Dello Stritto – yes.
- B. *Resolution for a 1 year vendor contract extension for Owasco Paddles.* D. Dello Stritto – Due to the programming plan design ongoing an extension is being sought with the intent that multi-year agreements will be effected by an adoption of a long term programming plan.
- C. *Resolution to accept a generous donation of \$12,500 from the Fred L. Emerson Foundation to assist with the funding of the 2019 July 3<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day Celebration fireworks display.* D. Dello Stritto: This only represents the fireworks portion of the event. The Symphoria concert is also funded separately through the Fred L. Emerson Foundation.

4. *Emerson Park:*

A. *CFA Grant for the Deauville Island Improvements:*

- 1. *The RFP for the destination playground RFP that will be issued 1/21/19.* J. Deforest – Are inclusive play structures represented in the RFP. D. Dello Stritto – Yes, inclusive design is a part of the RFP.

- 2. *TWMLA (landscape architect) planning meetings began 1/18/19*

- 3. *Biederman Redevelopment Ventures has been awarded the contract funded by the Fred L. Emerson Foundation to design a programming plan for Deauville Island and Emerson Park. Data is being collected and the plan will be completed by late summer.*

B. *The sluiceway excavation: awaiting Highway Department availability. Further construction funding is still being sought by the Planning Department for 2019.*

C. *The Ag Museum sewer pit: contracts have been awarded and we are awaiting the availability of the electrical contractor.* D. Dello Stritto – Wiring was completed 1/18 & 1/19, coordination with the installer is underway.

*D. The new county website will be live as of 1/24/19. The functionality of online reservations for our shelters is currently being tested. D. Dello Stritto has been performing all the updates and testing.*

*5. Ward W. O'Hara Ag Museum/Dr. Joseph F. Karpinski Sr. Educational Center Update (Tim Quill Director PT):*

*A. The museum board is working on a Five and Ten Year Plan for Museum T. Quill – The main element of the 5 year plan is to insulate and heat the museum in phases at an estimated cost of \$75,000. The main entrance building will be re-roofed in 2019. Budget funds have been appropriated for this project.*

*B. The Festival of Trees runs thru the end January T. Quill – Visitors – 3742 visited the 100 tree festival and made a total of \$1400 in donations.*

*C. The new Garage Exhibit is currently being wired.*

*T. Quill – A complete inventory with values has been provided to County for insurance purposes. The estimated value of the collection is \$400,000. County Fair: T. Quill has met with our partners, developed a budget and shared it with them. The 2018 County Fair required a significant amount of HR resources from the museum and we are looking at ways to minimize those impacts for 2019.*

*6. Sterling Nature Center (Jim D'Angelo Director PT):*

*A. The new Sterling Nature Center review committee has met with Beardsley Design Associates and is 50% complete with design meetings. Building design for current and future programming, sustainability, site selection and grant funding opportunities to build a new interpretive center are the core of the process.*

*B. Cayuga County has received \$7,890.26 from FEMA for trail replacement, regrading and repair including tree removal as necessary. This represents the federal portion of the reimbursement. We are anticipating the NY State portion within 6 weeks (\$1315.04, totaling \$9205.30 with adjustments) to complete the reimbursement.*

*C. The SNC staff is finalizing the 2019 program calendar.*

*B. Soper: Has there been any development on the ATV trespass investigations from 2018. D. Dello Stritto: All the information has been provided to the DA's office.*

*7. Owasco Flats:*

*A. No report.*

*8. Trail Update:*

*A. The Auburn Fleming Trail: maintenance requests are being managed on an as needed basis.*

*B. The Cato-Fair Haven Trail: stone has been requested by the Sterling Trail Tamers to make repairs on the Cato –Fair Haven Trail. We have ordered stone and requested Highway to haul when they are available.*

*C. Cato-Brutus trail bridge: The Trail bridge was installed on December 6, 2018. All approach work was completed prior to 12/31/18. This was an extensive project due to the challenges of the site and complexity of the requirements. Our partners at the CC Soil & Water Conservation District were vital in the preparation of the site including 1000' of trail stabilization to make crane access possible, the construction of the bridge abutments to DOT specifications and crane site and abutment construction and stabilization. This section of trail is not in the 2018-2019*

*snowmobile trail inventory.* D. Dello Stritto – Again thanked the CCSWCD for their efforts. A slide show of the installation and completed site work was shown.

9. *New Business*

- A. *Parks Commission member search; County and City of Auburn officials have been contacted regarding a candidate from the City of Auburn to fill the vacancy on the Parks Commission.*

10. *Announcements:*