

Minutes: Parks Commission
Wednesday, March 27, 2019 6:30 PM

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

Meeting Called to order at 6:41pm

Present: J. DeForest, D. Dello Stritto, Aileen McNabb-Coleman, Connie Reilley, Jean Saroodis, Kristina Sherman, Brian Soper, Jim Young

Other Attendees: Jim D'Angelo, Ryan Franklin, David Nelson, June Ouellette, Charlie Ripley

1. *Approve/Correct Minutes (attached) from the February 27, 2019 meeting.* Motion: A. McNabb-Coleman, 2nd J. Deforest, passed
2. *Presentation of the new Sterling Nature Center design by Beardsley Design Associates, funded by the Friends of the Sterling Nature Center.* Feedback: Building site impacts road access with regards to county & town property. The new building site does not require the removal of the existing structure. The design committee does suggest that the Jensvold house remain operational until the new facility is open and then be removed. Repurposing of materials from the Jensvold house into displays and architectural elements is also recommended. The design is sensitive to the surrounding area both aesthetically, culturally and environmentally while highlighting the ecology and providing expanded locations and infrastructure for programming.
3. *We had no resolutions for March:*
4. *We have one resolution for April.*
 - A. **AMENDING RESOLUTION 63-19 AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF SEASONAL STAFF FOR THE PARKS & TRAILS DEPARTMENT FOR THE 2019 SEASON**
5. *Emerson Park:*
 - A. *CFA Grant for the Deauville Island Improvements:*
 1. *TWMLA (landscape architect) has conducted core samples for the new pedestrian bridge and are finalizing design documents for the bid phase.*
 2. *Park Programming Initiative planning meetings were conducted by The Parks & Planning departments and led by Biederman Redevelopment Ventures. Feedback was overwhelming in favor of expanding/adding food & beverage options, a broad program of public events and use of the pavilion for public events.* J. Deforest: Was the feedback we received from a diverse cross section of constituents. D. Dello Stritto: The Parks Department staff and BR staff did feel like many demographic groups were represented in the public and stakeholders meetings.
 - B. *The sluiceway excavation: county planning, representatives from the City of Auburn and Buildings and Grounds staff have scheduled a planning meeting to address this effort.*
 - C. *The Ag Museum sewer pit: Installation is scheduled for April 8 - 11.*
 - D. *The new county website; the new Emerson Park page is being created and facilities module is being populated with our current inventory of rentable facilities.*
 - E. *Painting of the exterior of the Merry Go Round theater is being quoted.*
 - F. *City of Auburn will be constructing an extension on the south side of the pump station located on the pier to house activated carbon used for the water treatment required by the presence of HABs. Drawing attached.* Project noted and approved. Motion: J. Young, 2nd J. Deforest
 - G. *The contract with H&J for the management of the Emerson Park Pavilion expires in 2021. The current extension sets a proposed May 2019 deadline for releasing the RFP for a new*

3 year contract. We will be soliciting broad input to inform the final document. J. Deforest: Free community events were a part of the current term contract. Does that mean free for an entity to host a public event or a free event hosted by H&J. D. Dello Stritto: H&J is currently planning 2 public events. Partnering with the Cayuga Seneca Action Agency and another event planned for the early fall, H&J is adhering the public event clause in the current contract extension. A. McNabb-Coleman: can we receive copies of the current contract? D.DelloStritto – All documentation will be forwarded.

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

- A. *Wiring in Garage exhibit has been completed by BOCES.*
- B. *Insulating parts of the museum will begin next week. This will be completed by museum staff where possible. A 5 year insulating plan is being drafted.*
- C. *County Fair/Big 6: organizational meetings are taking place with all involved groups participating.*
- D. *Museum Parton/Staff/ Volunteer Recognition Outing will be Wednesday June 12 Mark Your Calendar*
- E. *Museum Board meeting: Monday, April 8, 2019, first meeting of 2019*
- F. *June 1, 2019 Old Ways Day at Museum 10 A.m. till 4 P.M.*
- G. *Preparing the museum for Spring/Summer Season*

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

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: ATV use on the trail has created challenges for the trail use and grooming in the winter months by the snowmobile clubs. The Cayuga County Snowmobile Association has sent the attached communication to the ATV club and Parks & Trails Department will survey and document areas on concern when snow melt allows. The impact of the ATV use on the trail and lack of ongoing summer season maintenance to the trails as per the use agreement has caused trail conditions to decline. Trail use agreement, resolution and photos of the trail conditions from the fall of 2018 are attached.*
J. DeForest: Do we have data on economic impact of trail use in the county? D. Dello Stritto – I will inquire with our tourism partners.
- C. *Cato Brutus Trail bridges: crane and rigging quotes have been received for the 2 remaining bridge sites on this trail. Updated general quotes have also been received from a vendor that had previously sent information on options for the 2 remaining spans. \$25,000 has been included in the 2019 budget and CC Soil & Water has offered assistance again in the site preparations. DEC and Army Corps of Engineers has been contacted to update and extend permits and plans for both sites.* B. Soper: If culverts are still available for the trail crossing in Fair Haven, the Town has resources to place them. D. Dello Stritto – They are stored at the Highway Department, we will research permitting required to install them

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.*
- B. *Attached are some examples of Parks & Trails department branded logos to start the process of rebranding the department. Signage concepts are also included to for reference as a signage plan is needed for the department. J. Deforest: Possibly a contest involving local schools could be organized to request logo ideas from students. J. Young: Logos should be consistent with County branding. C. Reilly: In 2008 Cayuga County Tourism initiated an effort to consolidate way finding signs across the county. The effort*

10. Announcements:

A. McNabb-Coleman: proposed holding the June or July Parks Commission meeting at the Sterling Nature Center. The board will schedule this meeting prior to the May Parks Commission Meeting and announce the date at that time.

Motion to Adjourn: J. Saroodis, 2nd A. McNabb-Coleman