



Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve • Otsego Lake County Park • Irontone Springs • Wah Wah Soo • Libke Fields • Community Center  
These are the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Otsego County Parks & Recreation Commission held on Monday February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

**Members Present:** Dave Baragrey, Scott Courterier, Bonny Miller, Judy Jarecki, Butch Fleming and Doug Johnson.

**Members Absent:** Randy Stults, Tom Johnson and Bill Holewinski.

**Others Present:** Kyle Ryan, Keri Swantek, John Burt, Scott Lampert, Rachel Frisch and Roger Latuszek.

Dave Baragrey introduced Kyle Ryan to the board members.

Several changes were identified by Randy Stults. A motion to accept the minutes with changes was made by Bonny Miller and seconded by Abe Cruz. Motion carried.

John Burt and Scott Lampert spoke on an easement request regarding placement of an underground pipeline on the preserve property. John Burt reported that the easement would be at the northwest corner of the Preserve, staying outside the fence line. The easement has been approved by both the Otsego Conservation District, the Groen Fund Trust Board and the Groen Trust Fund Board's attorney. Scott Lampert stated the reason for this request was to consolidate the facilities. Lampert also reported that the pipeline will be installed at an angle so as to not disturb the preserve property. A motion to recommend the approval of this request to the Otsego County Board of Commissioners was made by Butch Fleming and seconded by Scott Courterier. Motion carried.

Rachel Frisch prepared budget reports for the members ranging from 2008 to 2015. Frisch explained that the 2015 figures are not audited yet. Rachel Frisch discussed revenues and expenditures for the Community Center and County Park from 2008 - 2015. Frisch also reported that expenses in both departments have been reduced in 2015.

The bills were approved to go to finance for payment.

**New Business:**

- A. **Parks Millage:** Dave Baragrey discussed the millage request. John Burt reported on the possibility of hiring a part-time position at the community center. Burt also discussed the importance in building up the fund balance in an effort to seek grant matches for future repairs needed to the facilities. Dave Baragrey advised the members to decide on either a millage renewal or a millage increase and reasons for an increase. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.
- B. **Lights at the Community Center:** The members were presented with two proposals from Chuck's Electric. The first bid was to replace the 15 lights over the gym floor with LED fixtures at a cost of \$16,455.00. The second proposal concerned lights in the snack room and family room at the Community Center. The cost to repair the lights and install fluorescent fixtures was \$1,050.00 The cost



**Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve • Otsego Lake County Park • Irontone Springs • Wah Wah Soo • Libke Fields • Community Center** to install LED fixtures was \$1,400.00. Abe Cruz asked to have a bid for the 6 lights over the gym floor that were damaged. A motion was made by Abe Cruz and seconded by Doug Johnson to accept the proposal of \$1,400.00 to replace the damaged lights in the snack room and family room. Bonny Miller was opposed to this motion because an additional proposal for the 6 damaged lights was asked for. Abe Cruz withdrew his motion. Doug Johnson also withdrew his second to the motion. The discussion was tabled.

**Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve:** Roger Latuszek reported that a snowmobile had gone through a section of the fence on the property. Latuszek also reported that a fire pit near the welcome center is in use on the weekends and has been popular with guests. Latuszek also reported that snowshoeing is very popular at the preserve this year. Bonny Miller suggested possibly holding an event at the preserve in conjunction with the Alpen-Frost.

**Commissioner Comments:** Abe Cruz asked Dave to contact Eagle 101.5 in an effort to promote cross country skiing at the preserve. Butch Fleming, Abe Cruz, Doug Johnson, Judy Jarecki, Scott Courterier and Dave Baragrey offered thanks to Rachel Frisch for attending the meeting and the report she prepared as well as welcoming Kyle Ryan.

**Next Meeting is** Monday March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:00pm at the Otsego County Building, room 100.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Butch Fleming and seconded by Doug Johnson. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm

Keri Swantek  
Recording Secretary