

OTSEGO COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION



Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve
Otsego Lake County Park
Irontone Springs
Wah Wah Soo
Libke Fields
Community Center

These are the proposed minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Otsego County Parks and Recreation Commission held on December 10th, 2012.

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm

Members Present: Chad Dutcher, Butch Fleming, Dave Baragrey, Pete Awrey, Doug Johnson, Abe Cruz, Bill Holewinski, Tom Johnson, and Randy Stults.

Members Absent: Scott Courterier.

Others Present: Mike Tarbutton and John Burt.

Motion to approve minutes from November meeting with a correction of adding Tarbutton after Mike in Louis Groen Nature Preserve comments. Motion by Tom Johnson, second by Stults. Motion approved.

County Administrator Burt gave a report on the Groen Preserve progress and upcoming ideas out at the preserve. Has received ideas on activities that could be added such as: Dog Park, volleyball, rock climbing wall, etc. He will keep up posted. John Burt also gave us a copy of Conversation of the First Amendment to agreement for support of property to be designated as the Louis M. Groen Preserve. Motion by Stults, second by T. Johnson to recommend to the Otsego County Board of Commissioners our satisfaction with the amendment to be executed. Motion approved.

Bills: Approved to go to finance.

Budget: Finance Department recommends we transfer \$15,600 from the fund balance to cover per report provided. Motion by T. Johnson, second by Baragrey to do so. Motion approved. Current fund balance is \$142,102.27. Even with this transfer and the month of December still to go, Mike expects us to be around the \$110,000.00 at the end of this year. Mike brought up the condition of our current fleet of trucks. Mike feels we should start to look at replacing one or both. He also feels we might look at one with a plow due to future plowing at the back of the Community Center due to Handicap Access. We as a group discussed the pro's and con's and would like Mike to put this in future budget requests and get some ideas on costs and report back to us. Mike asked us to set an amount of revenue that may be used at the Groen Preserve out of the Parks and Recreation budget for incidentals that occur through the year. Mike will get more information to help us set the amount. The Treetops/Dover Township dispute will cost this department roughly \$6506 (one time charge) if it is settled the way it is now. After that it will be approximately \$1,057 a year decrease in revenues received.

Old Business: The Great Start Parent Coalition Grant for Handicap Improvements was turned down due to lack of funds. Mike was told by C. Gorno that the grant organization likes their plan and they will reapply in 2013. Bonnie Miller informed Mike that the Youth Flag Football will go to two nights per week next year. Hopefully this will solve the parking problems. Bonnie reported that 327 youths participated in 2012. J. Duff will ask the City of Gaylord Board about the request from the Otsego County Parks and Recreation Commission for a load/unload zone in front of the Community Center. Mike believes it is on their 12-10-12 agenda.

New Business: Awrey, Baragrey, and Cruz terms end on December 31st, 2012. All will re-up and they will execute letters sent from Otsego County.

OTSEGO COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION



Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve
Otsego Lake County Park
Irontone Springs
Wah Wah Soo
Libke Fields
Community Center

Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve: Groomer has been assembled and just waiting for snow. Mike met with Patricia Osborn and Justin Burchett, Nature Specialist. Justin provided Mike and John Burt with a list of programs and/or projects for us as a Commission to choose from. Programs will begin in January 2013 and last until October. Mike has put his recommendations on our lists and if we have ideas to let him know. There might have been a poaching incident on said property during past deer season. The Donation Pole is completed and just waiting on delivery. 25 more poles with color are up and should provide better trail markings. The Conservation District did their inspection of the property; for the most part everything went well. There was some concern of grass being planted too close to the lake. P. Osborn will advise Mike on what type of vegetation should be planted. The property needs forest management. The Groen's have a plan, it just needs to be turned over to the County and implemented. It was recommended that the trail leading to the lake should be closed to horse traffic. Mike is a little concerned with upcoming grooming as we have never done this before. The Groen Agreement allows for 40 hours per week, will this be enough...If not can Arnie Quay help out? We left this up to Mike's discretion.

County Park: We are still taking reservations for 2013. We discussed user fees for 2013 and we will leave everything the same. We discussed purchasing a cabin for use at the park; what we could charge per night, etc. We will revisit in 2013. The only other major purchase that Quay might need is a wider/newer cargo hauling trailer. Less than \$2000.00.

Community Center: Travel teams want more practice time to rent. We discussed this at length and Mike was informed to handle at his discretion. We need to look at some new equipment such as T.V.'s and equipment for these T.V.'s. The new stuff provides lots of movement and is really pretty accurate with what you have to do to play the games (Wii system). Possibly getting the Rotary Club to help with some of the expense was suggested. Mike will look into this.

County Park, Wah Wah Soo, Libke Fields, Irontone Springs: All Closed.

Director Comment: Mike gave us a year by year review of Parks and Recreation under the Chairmanship of Chad Dutcher. Chad is retiring tonight and we all appreciate the great job and leadership over the last 25 or more years. We will miss you Chad!! Thanks.

Commissioner Comment: None.

Next meeting: Monday, January 14th, 2012 at the Community Center at 6:00pm.

Motion to adjourn by Cruz, second by Stults. No other business was presented and the meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

Pete Awrey
Secretary

OTSEGO COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION



Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve
Otsego Lake County Park
Irontone Springs
Wah Wah Soo
Libke Fields
Community Center