



Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve  
Irontone Springs  
Libke Field  
Pontresina Park

Otsego Lake County Park  
Wah Wah Soo  
Community Center

**Groen Visioning Committee  
Joint Meeting with Otsego County Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes  
June 26th, 2018**

Called to order at 6:05pm by Dave Baragrey, president of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

**Parks and Recreation Commission Members Present:** Dave Baragrey, Randy Stults, Scott Courterier, Judy Jarecki, Bill Holewinski and Bonny Miller.

**Members Absent:** Kelli Parker, Abe Cruz, Justin Wing and Doug Johnson.

**Visioning Committee Members Present:** Duane Switalski, Don Sklarszyk, Matt Nowak and Kevin Kennedy.

**Parks and Recreation Staff Present:** Kyle Ryan and Roger Latuszek.

**Public Comment:** None.

**New Business:**

- A. **Introductions:** Attendees introduced themselves.

Patrica Osburn of the Visioning Committee arrived at 6:27.

- B. **Visioning Committee past focus/future goals:**

Matt Nowak spoke about Mr. Groen's wishes for the property (enjoy the property as Mr. Groen did, use by children and for education) and the history of the property.

The members discussed past and current special events including the 8<sup>th</sup> grade student field trips held in the fall. Roger Latuszek said the house will become a museum dedicated to Mr. Groen's legacy. Randy Stults said the parks members discussed having a master plan designed for the preserve with direction & ideas at Otsego County Parks and Recreation Committee Meetings. Dave Baragrey said a master plan needs to be designed. Dave Baragrey asked Kyle Ryan to send the website link for the Groen Visioning Committee minutes to the members of the Groen Visioning Committee. Dave Baragrey asked that the Visioning Committee members meet and discuss ideas for the property and bring that information to the Parks and Recreation Commission meetings.

It was suggested community involvement will be key to the success of the Groen Nature Preserve with specific to include The Owls, Library, Commission On Aging, Historical Society and area schools.



Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve  
Irontone Springs  
Libke Field  
Pontresina Park

Otsego Lake County Park  
Wah Wah Soo  
Community Center

- C. **Future Meeting schedule/format:** Bonny Miller asked if a member of the Visioning Committee should attend the Otsego County Parks and Recreation Commission meetings. Kyle Ryan suggested having a sub- committee from the Otsego County Parks and Recreation Commission to attend future meetings of the Groen Visioning Committee and bring updates to the Parks meetings. Randy Stults suggested to have both boards come together when needs arise. Kyle Ryan and Matt Nowak suggested having quarterly meetings of the Visioning Committee. Kyle Ryan suggested that the Groen Visioning Committees take place prior to the Otsego County Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings. The Visioning Committee members discussed having a meeting on Monday August 6<sup>th</sup> 2018.
- D. **Priorities:** Three priorities for the property were agreed upon:
- a. Rest rooms on the property to support the new entrance
  - b. Ranger Station at the new entrance
  - c. Master Plan for the nature preserve to include short and long term ideas and plans for the future of the property looking forward 20 or more years.

**Commissioner Comments:** None.

**Next Meeting:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44pm.

Keri Swantek, Recording Secretary

Randy Stults, Secretary