



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

Otsego Lake County Park
Wah Wah Soo
Community Center

Proposed Minutes
Regular Meeting Otsego County Parks and Recreation Commission
August 10th 2020

Call to order at 6:00pm by President Dave Baragrey at the Otsego County Building, room 100.

Members Present: Judy Jarecki, Bonny Miller, Justin Wing, Randy Stults, Bill Holewinski, Scott Courterier, Dave Baragrey and Doug Johnson.

Members Absent: Abe Cruz.

Others Present: Tom Pratt, Rachel Frisch and Keri Swantek.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Scott Courterier identified the following corrections Director Update:
Groen: Roger Latuszek said the seeder arrived and the trailer was purchased. Roger said they Eagle 101.5 radio has been running advertisements for the preserve.
Rachel Frisch said she is scheduling a zoom meeting with the Groen Foundation Board to introduce the members to Tom Pratt and the provide updates on capital projects.
Mark Mellon Triathlon: Tom Pratt spoke with Dave Smith and they are still planning on have the triathlon.
A motion was made by Randy Stults and seconded by Scott Courterier to advise Dave Smith that the ~~co-vid~~ Covid-19 requirements that he has in place need to come to the board to get the district health department approval of them before the board moves forward.
A motion to approve the minutes from July 13th 2020 with the corrections was made by Scott Courterier and seconded by Doug Johnson. Motion carried.

Abe Cruz arrived at 6:02pm.

Public Comment: None.

Tom Pratt added Community Playgroup and the Community Center under New Business.

Bills: A motion to approve the bills dated 7/9/20 – 8/3/20 in the amount of \$46,821.43 was made by Scott Courterier and seconded by Randy Stults. Motion carried.

Financial Reports: The members discussed the financial reports from July for the County Parks, the Community Center and the Groen Preserve. Randy Stults asked for the staff to report back on the increased revenue from the camping fee change for this year.

Old Business:

- A. **Campground Sites:** Tom Pratt reported that Environment Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) said that water levels are 2-3 feet below the ground surface. Tom Pratt discussed paving the site



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where the camping unit would go. Tom Pratt also discussed installing storm drains on some of the sites. Tom said he is going to meet with Wade Trim.

- B. **Community Center Cleaning:** Tom Pratt said the cleaning is out for bid.
- C. **Mark Mellon Triathlon:** Tom Pratt reported that the health department approved the Mark Mellon Triathlon. Dave Smith expects 75-100 participants.
- D. **Forestry Plan Update:** Tom Pratt said he is working with Rick Deuell , an independent contractor. Rick sent a questionnaire to Tom Pratt and Roger Latuszek about the property.

New Business:

- A. **Groen Tree Removal (Storm):** Tom Pratt said 300-350 trees came down or damaged during a recent storm. Tom Pratt said he received 2 quotes. The first quote was for \$115,000.00. The second quote was \$25,000.00 for logging out 287 trees. A motion was made by Randy Stults and seconded by Bonny Miller to enter into the contract with Fahl Forestry Company for \$25,000.00 as an emergency repair. Motion carried.

Director's Update:

- A. **Community Playgroup:** Tom Pratt informed the members that Laura Cherry wants to hold the Community Playgroup outdoors once and week in August. The board members were in favor of this.
- B. **Community Center:** Tom Pratt and Rachel Frisch met with the county prosecutor about opening the Community Center and the prosecutor recommended not opening the Community Center at this time because of Covid-19 issues. The board members agreed with this recommendation. The board members want to monitor reopening on a monthly basis.
- C. Rachel Frisch informed the board members that Arnie Quay retired. Scott Courterier thanked Arnie for his service.
- D. **Groen:** Rachel Frisch said she has set up a zoom meeting with the Groen Foundation Board, Tom Pratt and herself.
- E. **County Park:** Tom Pratt thanked the staff for their hard work.



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- F. Irontone Springs:** Tom Pratt said activity at Irontone Springs is increasing.
- G. Libke Fields:** Flag football has been canceled for this season. Abe Cruz asked about a back stop being installed.
- H. Dog Park:** Tom Pratt said he has received several compliments about the Dog Park.
- I. Community Center:** Tom Pratt said the Community Center is closed.
- J. Wah Wah Soo:** Tom Pratt said Wah Wah Soo is really busy.

Commissioner Comments:

- Justin Wing asked where he can get a parks and recreation hat.
- Bonny Miller wanted to do something for Arnie Quay at the County Park.
- Scott Courterier agreed with Bonny Miller.
- Randy Stults asked that the parks commission meeting in September be held at one of the parks.
- The board members agreed to hold the next meeting at Irontone Springs.

The next meeting is Monday September 14th at 6:00pm at Irontone Springs at 6:00pm.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Abe Cruz and seconded by Scott Courterier. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Attachments as part of these minutes:

- Bills dated 7/9/20 – 8/3/20 in the amount of \$46,821.43.
- Financial reports from July for the County Parks, the Community Center and the Groen Preserve.
- Map of Mark Mellon Triathlon.

Keri Swantek, Recording Secretary

Randy Stults, Secretary