



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

Otsego Lake County Park  
Wah Wah Soo  
Community Center

**Minutes**  
**Otsego County Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Regular Meeting February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Call to order at 6:05pm by President Dave Baragrey at the Otsego County Building, room 100.

**Members Present:** Dave Baragrey, Troy Huff, Randy Stults, Doug Johnson, Abe Cruz via Zoom, Scott Courterier, Justin Wing, Judy Jarecki via Zoom and Bonny Miller via Zoom.

**Members Absent:** None.

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

**Previous Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes from the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting 2021 as presented was made by Justin Wing and seconded by Scott Courterier. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Bills:** A motion was made by Scott Courterier and seconded by Randy Stults to approve payment of the bills dated January 5<sup>th</sup> – February 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 in the amount of \$18,031.77. Motion carried.

**Budget Reports:** The members discussed the budget reports from January for the County Parks, the Community Center and the Groen Preserve.

**Old Business:**

- 1. Truck/Rangers:** Tom Pratt said the new truck arrived last week. Tom said one of the ranger ATV's for the Groen Preserve is in stock at Leaders RPM and the second ATV is on order.
- 2. Heating Issue at CC:** Tom Pratt said that Listvan fixed the heating exchange and performed a certification on the boiler.

**New Business:**

- 1. Roof Bid:** Tom Pratt presented the bids that were received to replace the roofs on 4 buildings at the Groen Preserve. The lowest bid came from ASAP Roofing from Gaylord. A motion was made by Scott Courterier and seconded by Bonny Miller to recommend the vendor ASAP Roofing in the amount of \$14,500.00 for new roofs for the Lakehouse Garage Roof, the Stone Barn Roof, the Gambrel Garage Roof and the Horse Through Roof. Motion carried.

**2. Budget Amendment:** Tom Pratt said that \$24,000.00 was budgeted for the 2 new rangers needed at the Groen Preserve. The total cost came in at \$27,016.00. Tom said the Groen foundation would like the additional money to come out of the fund balance. A motion was made by Doug Johnson and seconded by Scott Courterier to move \$3,016.00 from the fund balance to cover the cost of the rangers. Motion carried.



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**3. Daily/Season Pass Cost:** Tom Pratt discussed the pass costs and income from last year. Tom and Dave Baragrey discussed possibly eliminating day passes and just selling season passes for \$10.00 and senior passes at \$7.00. Tom also discussed raising the fee of day passes by \$1.00. The commission members discussed not raising the prices on daily passes or season passes and not eliminating day passes this year. Randy Stults asked Tom to present a cost and income report on day and season passes from the ~~2022~~ [2021] camping season at the meeting in the Fall.

**4. Interviews for Coordinator Position:** Tom Pratt said he and Trisha Adam interviewed 6 people last week and 3 of those individuals will be coming this week for a second interview.

**5. Capital Outlay Plan:** Tom Pratt discussed that the break wall at Wah Wah Soo will need to be replaced at some point. The board members asked Tom to look at the break wall and report back to them regarding the maintenance needed. Tom said that playground equipment was suggested at Irontone Springs as well as replacing the big bridge. Tom said a back stop, fencing repairs as needed and bathrooms were suggested for Libke Fields as well as converting one of the fields into a football field. The members were interested in getting prices on the back stop first. Tom said he is interested in working with the Gaylord Youth Football Program and possibly moving their practice field to Libke Fields to get more people to use the facility. Tom also discussed the football program possibly donating and moving the goal posts from the current practice field to Libke Fields. Tom said he was approached about making sand volleyball courts at Libke Fields. The board members were not interested in this.

#### **Director's Update:**

- 1. Community Center:** Tom Pratt said the Community Center is open for Community Playgroup and Pickle-ball. Tom said pickle-ball has had 43 participants thus far and Community Playgroup has had 35 families attend. Tom said they are now able to open for volleyball and basketball leagues and he is looking for someone to coordinate a basketball league. Tom said that Kelly Fox does not have much interest in volleyball leagues at this time.
- 2. Groen Preserve:** Tom Pratt said the attendance is approximately 100 people per week and that the radio advertising with Eagle 1015 has been working well. Tom said Zaremba's found a field cultivator but it is too big for the tractor at the Groen Preserve. Tom has been talking with Zaremba's to try to find a solution.

**Commissioner Comments:** Justin Wing asked about the bills from Wade Trim that were on the bills list and if a plan has been completed. Tom said Wade Trim will be making a presentation at the next meeting.

Randy Stults asked if a signed funding agreement from the Otsego Lake Association for the fireworks has been signed. Tom said he does not have an agreement yet. Tom said he has a Zoom meeting with the lake association this week.

Troy Huff said that Kirk Harrier is the new manger at the road commission.



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Bonny Miller said the County does not have any records of the length of time that any members have served on the parks and recreation commission.

The next meeting is Monday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:00pm at the Otsego County Building, room 100.

A motion to adjourn was made by Troy Huff and seconded by Doug Johnson. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm.

Attachments as part of these minutes

- Bills dated January 5<sup>th</sup> – February 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 in the amount of \$18,031.77.
- Budget Reports from January 2021 for the County Parks, the Community Center and the Groen Preserve.
- The bids for replacing 4 roofs at the Groen Preserve.
- The budget amendment to cover the cost of 2 rangers for the Groen Preserve.

Keri Swantek, Recording Secretary

Bonny Miller, Secretary



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