



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 March 8th, 2021.**

Called to order at 6:16pm by President Dave Baragrey at the Otsego County Building, room 100.

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

Members Absent: Abe Cruz.

Others Present: Tom Pratt, Roger Latuszek, Rachel Frisch, Jacob Brown, Keri Swantek and Quinn Ridley via Zoom.

Dave Baragrey introduced Troy Huff as the new representative from the Otsego County Road Commission.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Randy Stults identified a correction from the discussion under the daily/season pass costs. The previous minutes said Randy Stults asked Tom to present a cost and income report on day and season passes from the ~~2022~~ [2021]. A motion was made by Randy Stults and seconded by Scott Courterier to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Bills: A motion was made by Troy Huff and seconded by Bonny Miller to approve the bills dated 2/1/21-2/28/21 in the amount of \$51,126.03 as presented. Motion carried.

Budget Reports: The members discussed the budget reports from February 2021 for the County Parks, the Community Center and the Groen Preserve. Tom Pratt said Zarembo Equipment picked up the field cultivator from the Groen Preserve because the tractor could not pick it up. Tom Pratt said they did not pay for the field cultivator. Tom Pratt and Roger Latuszek said they are looking at a different piece of equipment.

D. Old Business

1. County Park Ranger Station: Tom said the crawl space in the ranger station is dry.

Dave Baragrey and Tom Pratt introduced Jacob Brown as the new Coordinator for Otsego County Parks and Recreation. Tom said they are conducting interviews next week for the seasonal ranger positions.



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E. New Business

1. Quinn Ridley (Wade Trim) presentation (Campsite Improvements):

Quinn Ridley discussed the site plan that was prepared with alternatives to fix the drainage issues on some of the campsites. Alternate 1 consisted of installing storm sewers on some of the campsites and grading 32 of the campsites. Alternate 2 includes grading approximately 32 campsites and installing less storms sewers in the North Campground and not installing any storms sewers in the South Campground. Alternate 3 would involve grading 32 campsites.

2. Tom Pratt spoke with the National Weather Service about the 100-year water level high of the Great Lakes water levels. Tom reported that the Great Lakes water levels are at their highest level in 35 years. The National Weather Service did not think the water levels will be this high again in our lifetime but this is not guaranteed. Tom is recommending the alternate 3 option. Tom said they are looking into grant funding through a DNR grant and the deadline for submitting the first draft is April 1st 2021. Rachel Frisch advised the board members to pursue the grant. Justin Wing was concerned that a portion of the grant money would have to be used for engineering costs. Justin was also concerned that since the grant recipient will be announced in October 2021 that the project would be delayed until October 2022. A motion was made by Randy Stults and seconded by Scott Courterier to recommend to the budget and finance committee to prepare a resolution for the Otsego County Board of Commissioners to amend \$50,000.00 for matching a grant for campsite improvements. Judy Jarecki abstained from this motion. Motion carried.

F. Director's Update

1. **Community Center:** Tom Pratt said during the month of February Pickle-Ball had 66 participants and the Community Playgroup had 84 families attend. Tom said the Co-ed Volleyball league has two divisions with 8 teams each. Tom said an adult basketball league is being organized by Jack Korte and will start in April.

2. **Groen Preserve:** Tom Pratt presented a drawing from C2AE of the pavilion. Roger Latuszek said they hosted a hike this past Saturday with a hot dog cook-out at the lake and there were 55 participants. Roger said some of the roofs are being installed on the barns as well as new doors for the pole barn.

Scott Courterier asked about the fireworks contract. Tom said he has to meet with Nick Florian.

Commissioner Comments: None.

The next meeting is Monday April 12th 2021 at 6:00pm at the Otsego County Building, room 100.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Scott Courterier and seconded by Bonny Miller. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.



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Attachments as part of these minutes:

- Bills dated 2/1/21-2/28/21 in the amount of \$51,126.03.
- Budget reports from February 2021 for the County Parks, the Community Center and the Groen Preserve.
- Wade Trim Campsite Drainage Improvement Plan.

Keri Swantek, Recording Secretary

Bonny Miller, Secretary



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