

**FRIENDS OF PASSAIC COUNTY PARKS, INC.**  
**October 19, 2020 Meeting**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

1. Chairwoman Alice Szepietowski
2. Vice-Chairman George Silva
3. Freeholder John W. Bartlett
4. Director of Parks & Recreation Designee: Greg Moore
5. Director of Cultural & Historic Affairs Designee: Kelly C. Ruffel
6. Andrew Smith
7. Daryl Walton
8. Robert Spiotti

**Members Absent:**

1. County Administrator Designee: Matthew P. Jordan
2. Jamie Dykes
3. Kelly Pascrell (\*\*Ms. Pascrell could not log in (tech. issue\*\*)

A roll call brought the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

Ruffel made the announcement of the Open Public Meetings Act.

A motion was made by Bartlett and seconded by Walton to open the public portion of the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

No one from the public was present.

A motion was made by Bartlett and seconded by Walton to close the public portion.

Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Walton to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2020 meeting.

Motion passed. Bartlett and Walton abstained.

Under Old Business, Moore provided a report on the Highlands Preserve Athletic Field. Photographs were attached to showcase the project status. The project is moving along and should be completed soon. Ruffel provided an update of the John W. Rea House historic landscaping project. Site clearing has started, and the installation of pathways will begin soon. Silva questioned the functions of the

fountain in Weasel Brook Park. Moore advised that due to Covid-19, parts to fix the fountain were finally delivered two weeks ago. The fountain will be pulled out for the winter. Repairs and reinstallation will occur in the spring.

There was no report for the fundraising committee.

Under Passaic County Fair committee reports, Ruffel advised that the County Fair dates for 2021 are tentatively August 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup>.

Under Memorial Bench and Tree program committee reports, Ruffel advised that Spiotti has an inquiry and will reach out to the office with further information. No other inquiries were made since the last Board meeting.

Under Treasurer's Report, Ruffel gave an update on the status of the bank account and the transition from TD Bank to Lakeland Bank. Ruffel and Jordan closed the TD Bank accounts in September and the new accounts with Lakeland were all set. In addition, Ruffel shared and notified the Board that paperwork was processed to accept grant reimbursements from Green Acres electronically.

Under New Business, several items were discussed.

Ruffel updated the Board on the re-appointment of Pascrell.

Second, Ruffel and Moore presented a new project at Goffle Brook Park and requested the authorization of purchasing fencing material. The split rail fence will stretch roughly two miles along Goffle Road to provide safety to pedestrians utilizing the park, and to protect the eroding landscaping from frequent vehicles parking and pulling over along Goffle Road. Discussion and questions occurred amongst Board members regarding concerns over public reaction and alternative fence material choices. Ruffel and Moore noted that fencing will be installed along Rea Avenue for the Rea Ave Field Improvement Project as well. Ruffel noted that some of the fencing material proposed will be reimbursed by Green Acres.

A motion was made by Silva and seconded by Bartlett to authorize the expenditure of twenty-five thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars (\$25,625.00) for fencing material at Goffle Brook Park.

Motion passed unanimously.

There were no correspondence items.

A motion was made by Bartlett and seconded by Moore to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 PM.

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Kelly C. Ruffel  
Secretary, Friends of Passaic County Parks, Inc.