



Friends of Passaic County Parks, Inc.

December 12, 2022 Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

1. Commissioner John W. Bartlett
2. Director of Parks & Recreation Designee: Greg Moore
3. Director of Cultural & Historic Affairs Designee: Kelly C. Ruffel
4. County Administrator Designee: Marc Seemon
5. Linda Nardone
6. Pat O'Connor

Members Absent:

1. Kelly Pascrell
2. Chairwoman Alice Szepietowski
3. Vice-Chairman George Silva

A roll call brought the meeting to order at 5:04 PM.

A motion was made by Bartlett and seconded by Moore to nominate Linda Nardone to chair the meeting, due to the absence of both the Chair and Vice Chair.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ruffel made the announcement of the Open Public Meetings Act.

A motion was made by Bartlett and seconded by Seemon to open the public portion.

Motion passed unanimously.

No one from the public was present.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Bartlett and seconded by O'Connor to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2022, meeting.

Motion passed with two abstentions by Bartlett and Seemon.

There was no old business reported.

Under Committee Reports, Ruffel reported that a donation of \$750 was discussed with a constituent for a plaque to honor the memory of their dog. This donation will fall under the Memorial Tree and Bench Program. Under Programs and Events, Ruffel reported about thirty advance purchases of admission to the Dey Mansion Wine and Cheese event. Nardone reported that the Passaic County Walks are being well received. Ruffel reported that a draft of the annual sponsorship letter will be sent out before the next meeting for review. O'Connor reported small but engaged attendance at the Leave the Leaves event this past fall.

Under Treasurer's Report, Seemon gave an update on the state of the bank accounts. Accounts are in good standing. Ruffel also presented a draft 2023 budget.

Under New Business, there was discussion of the purchase of a Mobile Stage. Ruffel reported that there is only one company that bid the required item. To purchase the stage with all the amenities required, an addition of \$50,793.62 toward the purchase price of \$250,793.82 was needed. The County is providing \$200,000 towards the purchase.

A motion was made by Bartlett and seconded by Moore to approve the expenditure of \$50,793.62 towards the purchase of a mobile stage.

Motion passed unanimously.

There was also discussion of a request for a Tourism Grant Match of \$10,000 to hire Fuerza Strategy Group to build out photo and video resources for the County.

A motion was made by Bartlett and seconded by Seemon to enter into a contract with Fuerza Strategy Group.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ruffel announced PCCHC grant awards of \$9,012 for the exhibition on the park commission and \$8,000 for performances at the Rifle Camp Amphitheater for the 2023 calendar year.

Lastly, there was discussion of the meeting schedule for 2023. Some members of the Board find meeting on the second Monday of the month difficult. It was suggested that the 2023 meetings be held on the

first Tuesday of the month. Ruffel agreed to poll of all members to decide.

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 PM.

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