

FRIENDS OF PASSAIC COUNTY PARKS, INC.
April 9, 2018 Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Members present :

1. Freeholder Director Designee John W. Bartlett, Esq.
2. Jamie Dykes
3. County Administrator Designee: Matthew P. Jordan, Esq.
4. Director of Parks and Recreation Designee: Greg Moore
5. Director of Cultural and Historic Affairs Kelly Ruffel
6. Jeffrey Buonforte
7. Vice-Chairman George Silva
8. Chairwoman Alice Szepietowski

Members Absent :

1. Kelly Pascrell
2. Robert Spiotti

A roll call brought the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

The announcement of the Open Public Meetings Act was made by Jordan.

A motion was made by Silva and seconded by Buonforte to open the public portion of the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

The following resident spoke on the record during the public portion:

1. Ann Schnakenberg, 268 Washington Avenue, Clifton, NJ spoke on behalf of the Friends of Garret Mountain and Save Rifle Camp Park Coalition, and on other matters related to the Passaic County Park System.

A motion was made by Bartlett and seconded by Dykes to close the public portion of the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dykes and seconded by Bartlett to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2018 meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Under old business, the Board discussed the Goffle Brook Athletic Field Improvement Project which is being funded by a grant received by the Friends of Passaic County Parks, Inc. from Green Acres. The project's final design is complete and is ready to be bid. Construction is slated to begin over the summer. The fields will be closed for the fall.

As previously mentioned at the March 12, 2018 meeting, Jordan informed the Board that he discussed with Harris Disc Golf Design a potential settlement for the invoices provided for work on the closed disc golf course project at Rifle Camp Park. Jordan spoke with Adam Harris after the last meeting, who stated that he was amenable to cutting his bill in half, plus expenses, to settle the matter. Jordan stated that he will have County Counsel prepare a release to be executed, if the settlement is accepted.

A motion was made by Silva and seconded by Moore to settle with Harris Disc Golf Design for services and expenses rendered on the Rifle Camp Park Disc Golf Course design in the amount of sixty seven hundred dollars (\$6,700.00).

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board was reminded of two events coming up in May, the Lambert Tower Wine and Cheese Fundraiser on May 3rd, and Lambert Classic 8K on May 6th. Flyers will be circulated so the event can be circulated.

Jordan distributed to the Board through the agenda packet the sponsorships received thus far for the 2018 Passaic County Fair.

A short discussion ensued about the Memorial Bench and Tree Program - the new brochure was distributed again to Board members absent from the last meeting.

Jordan reported on the non-profit's finances. He noted that the account balances distributed in the agenda packet did not include twenty three thousand dollars (\$23,000.00) of sponsorships that still needed to be deposited.

Buonforte raised the idea of moving the Board's assets into a money market account to reduce fees and raise additional interest. Jordan and Buonforte will explore options and present to the Board at a subsequent meeting.

Under new business, the Board discussed two (2) resolutions approved by the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders. The first restructured the Passaic County History & Tourism Board, giving the Chairperson of the Friends of Passaic County Parks, Inc. a seat on the new History and Tourism Board. Meetings are scheduled to begin in the fall, with more information to come. The second designated the Friends of Passaic County Parks, Inc. as the destination marketing organization for Passaic County. This opens more grant opportunities to the non-profit, and will aid other tourism efforts being planned by the Freeholder Board through the Department of Cultural and Historic Affairs.

The Board considered Resolution 18-05 authorizing a grant application to the New Jersey Historic Trust. Ruffel explained that the grant will fund a historic site management plan for Passaic County, which included a monetary match.

A motion was made by Silva and seconded by Buonforte to approve Resolution 18-05.

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board considered Resolution 18-06 authorizing a grant application to the North Face Explore Fund. Jordan informed the Board that the grant would fund sixteen (16) guided hikes by the County's Trail Coordinator in partnership with the Paterson/Passaic Boys & Girls Club. Silva asked that we reach out to the Clifton Boys and Girls Club and, if funded, see if the program can be expanded to Clifton. Jordan said he would contact them and see if it is possible.

A motion was made by Silva and seconded by Bartlett to approve Resolution 18-06.

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed other ongoing park improvement projects taking place this year in the Passaic County Park System.

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Silva to adjourn.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.