

FRIENDS OF PASSAIC COUNTY PARKS, INC.
December 18, 2018 Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Members present :

1. Kelly Pascrell
2. Jeffrey Buonforte
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. Vice-Chairman George Silva
7. Chairwoman Alice Szepietowski

Members Absent :

1. Freeholder John W. Bartlett
2. Robert Spiotti
3. Jamie Dykes

A roll call brought the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

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

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

Motion passed unanimously.

The following member of the public spoke during the public portion:

1. Ann Schnakenberg, 268 Washington Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07011. Two items were brought up. The first was in respect to Garret Mountain Reservation. Ms. Schnakenberg noted that Goffle Brook Park was on the National and State Register of Historic Places, and asked if Garret Mountain Reservation could be nominated as well. The second was with respect to closing Rifle Camp Park during the Passaic County Fair, and if it was possible for it to remain open.

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Silva to close the public portion of the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Jordan responded to Ms. Schnakenberg that the decision to nominate Garret Mountain Reservation to the National and State Register of Historic Places rests with the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders, not the Friends of Passaic County Parks, Inc. With respect to Rifle Camp Park closing during the Passaic County Fair, he noted that parking is limited at Garret Mountain Reservation, and unfortunately the parking is necessary at Rifle Camp Park because of the volume of visitors.

A motion was made by Silva and seconded by Buonforte to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2018 meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Under Old Business, the Board discussed the pending twenty thousand dollar (\$20,000.00) grant from the Horizon Foundation that was originally earmarked for the Rifle Camp Park Disc Golf Project, which was subsequently cancelled. Jordan noted that it came to his attention that Camp Hope is in need to fitness equipment - akin to what the Horizon Foundation funded at Goffle Brook and Weasel Brook Parks - and raised the idea of reaching out to the Horizon Foundation to see if the grant monies can be reallocated. The Board agreed and instructed Jordan to make inquiry.

There were no items to discuss under Committee Reports and Treasurer's Report.

Under New Business, Jordan explained to the Board that bids were opened for the Garret Mountain Reservation Deer Fence Project. BASH Contracting, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder, and an award of contract was recommended by the Passaic County Engineer.

A motion was made by Buonforte and seconded by Pascrell to approved Resolution 18-11, authorizing an award of contract to BASH Contracting, Inc. from the Garret Mountain Reservation Fence Project.

Motion passed unanimously.

The Passaic County Cultural and Heritage Council informed the Board that it was awarding a grant in the amount of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500.00). Ruffel explained to the Board that the money would be used for historic interpretative panels in Goffle Brook Park.

A motion was made by Jordan and seconded by Moore to authorize the Chairwoman and Secretary-Treasurer to execute the grant agreement and take any other necessary action in furtherance of the project.

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed 2019 meeting dates. The Trustees agreed that the second Monday of each month worked, and instructed Jordan to publish a public notice in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Silva brought up two issues related to Weasel Brook Park, the annual Dutch Hill Resident's Association Flea Market, and the Westervelt-Vanderhoef House, which was recently rehabilitated and restored. Silva inquired whether the DHRA will be able to host their annual flea market at Weasel Brook Park. Jordan suggested to Silva to reach out to the Parks and Recreation Department regarding the permit process. Additionally, Silva inquired whether the DHRA would be able to use the Westervelt-Vanderhoef House for its meeting. Ruffel stated that the Department of Cultural and Historic Affairs will be handling the permitting and scheduling for the Westervelt-Vanderhoef House, and that most likely the DHRA meetings can be accommodated.

The Trustees thanked Buonforte for his work on the Friends of Passaic County Parks, Inc., as it was his last meeting.

A motion was made by Buonforte and seconded by Pascrell to adjourn.

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.