

## HOST COMMUNITIES STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012 – 12:00 p.m.

Niagara County Department of Economic Development

6311 Inducon Corporate Drive

Sanborn, New York 14132

### **Representatives Present:**

Don Rappold, Asst. Superintendent – Chairman, HCSC

Angelo Massaro, Esq.

Tom O’Donnell, Esq.

Lou Paonessa

William L. Ross, Chairman, NC Legislature

Kerin Dumphrey, Acting Supt.

Mike Risman, Esq.

Mike Johnson

Lewiston-Porter School District

Niagara Falls City School District

City of Niagara Falls

New York Power Authority

Niagara County

Niagara Wheatfield School District

Town of Niagara

Town of Lewiston

### **Guests:**

Chris Roser, Superintendent

Thomas Burgasser, Esq.

Jackie Siegmann

Rae Proefrock

Scott Hapeman, Esq.

Ed Janulionis

Gretchen A. Duling

Dennis C Duling

Pam Hauth

Anne McCaffrey, Board Member

Lewiston-Porter School District

Niagara County

Town of Niagara

Carousel Society - Kiddieland

Niagara Wheatfield School District

Carousel Society – Kiddieland

“From the Mouth of the Niagara River”

“From the Mouth of the Niagara River”

Historical Association of Lewiston

Palace Theater

### **Staff Present:**

Mary Melloni, Recording Secretary

John M. Baird, Treasurer, NPC

Stan Widger, Esq., NPC Counsel, Nixon Peabody (via teleconference)

Samuel M. Ferraro, Executive Director/Commissioner - Niagara County Center for Economic Development

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#### **1.0 Call to Order**

Chairman Rappold called the Host Communities Standing Committee meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

#### **2.0 Roll Call**

Ms. Melloni called the roll; a quorum was established.

#### **3.0 Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Rappold led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **4.0 HCSC Meeting Minutes of**

##### **4.1 March 27, 2012**

##### **4.2 May 22, 2012**

Chairman Rappold indicated that the minutes were reviewed and appear to be in order. Mr. O'Donnell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dumphrey, to approve the minutes of March 27<sup>th</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012. Motion passed.

#### **5.0 Project Presentations**

##### **5.1 Niagara County**

##### **5.1.1 "From the Mouth of the Lower Niagara River Commemorating 200 Years of Peace on Our Border" (\$29,000 - Approved by Niagara County Legislature 6/19/12; Determined Consistent by NRG 5/15/12)**

Gretchen Duling reviewed the project sponsors and contributors. She provided a presentation by reading an excerpt from the proposed publication. She explained that the Historical Society of Lewiston accepted the responsibility of the 501C3 in order to distribute the funds, any grants, donations or awards the publication will get. She explained that their addendum successfully addresses the guiding principles. In looking at the initial Greenway requirements they feel the project reflects the spirit of the Greenway. She stated that she feels the criterion meets the requirements of the NRG. They may need some additional funding and have recently received some information from the Bridge Commission. She reviewed their budget which included volunteer hours and related expenses.

Ms. Duling discussed how the book will be distributed in the United States and Canada. The price of the book will be the same on both sides of the border. She expressed their gratitude to Legislators Michael Hill and Clyde Burmaster and the support of the Niagara County Legislature. She also reviewed various letters of support from the City of Niagara Falls and Town of Lewiston. They believe the book benefits local residents and visitors of the Niagara River Greenway corridor.

Mr. Massaro asked how this was consistent with the Greenway. Mr. Burgasser stated that many people thought this was a great idea. The NRG indicated that this was something that was able to tie together a good portion of the Greenway and what the projects represent along the Greenway itself, and therefore in their minds, and Niagara County also felt, it becomes consistent to tie these things together. A portion of the funds from the sale of the book will be held by the Historical Society in order to update the book also.

There were no further questions or comments from the members. Mr. Widger stated that the project has met all criteria to bring it to a vote.

**5.0 Project Presentations (Continued...)**

**5.1 Niagara County**

**5.1.1 “From the Mouth of the Lower Niagara River Commemorating 200 Years of Peace on Our Border”  
(\$29,000 - Approved by Niagara County Legislature 6/19/12; Determined Consistent by NRG 5/15/12)**

*Mr. Ross made a motion, seconded by Mr. O’Donnell, to approve funding in the amount of \$29,000.00 for the “From the Mouth of the Lower Niagara River...” Project.*

*WHEREAS, the County of Niagara, on behalf of Gretchen A. Duling, Ph.D., has applied to the Host Communities Standing Committee for funding in the amount of \$29,000.00 for the “From the Mouth of the Lower Niagara River” project and; WHEREAS, this project was submitted to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for consultation;*

*WHEREAS, the Host Communities Standing Committee finds the project to be consistent with the Greenway Plan.*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Host Communities Standing Committee that funding in the amount of \$29,000.00 for the “From the Mouth of the Lower Niagara River” project is approved; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution is forwarded to First Niagara Bank.*

**A roll call vote was taken.**

Town of Lewiston	<u>Yes</u>
Town of Niagara	<u>Yes</u>
Lewiston Porter	<u>Yes</u>
City of Niagara Falls	<u>Yes</u>
Niagara-Wheatfield	<u>Yes</u>
Niagara County	<u>Yes</u>
New York Power Authority	<u>Yes</u>
Niagara Falls Schools	<u>Yes</u>

**The resolution was thereupon duly adopted.**

## 5.0 Project Presentations

### 5.1 Niagara County

#### 5.1.1 “Kiddieland by Carousel Society of the Niagara Frontier” (Requesting \$66,000 additional funding – approved by N.C. Legislature; \$30,000 approved by N.C. Legislature on 1/18/11; Determined Consistent by NRGC on 1/19/10)

Rae Proefrock, Director of the Carousel Museum, addressed the members. She explained that when the project was started they hoped to put a fence around the land, approximately a 100 x 150 s.f. space. There are concrete pads and a pavilion to provide some shade for parents. The pads would allow them to set up four rides, three of which are from the former Pages Restaurant in Niagara Falls and the fourth ride was donated. This was done with the \$30,000 from the Greenway funds and \$35,000 from the City of North Tonawanda. She explained that they are purchasing the rides for \$12,000, but the project requires another \$70,000 to \$80,000. They realized that they would have to take the rides down every single year and store them somewhere and then put them back up each year. This would be difficult for their older volunteers. The additional funding will allow them to put an octagon shelter over three of the rides, as the helicopter ride cannot be covered. That shelter will allow them to board it up to protect the rides during the winter months. They also decided they would like to add nice fencing, pavers, lighting and landscaping. This brought the cost up to \$216,000. An anonymous donor is providing \$150,000, providing the Greenway will approve funding for the remaining \$66,000.

***Mr. Ross made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dumphrey, to approve additional funding in the amount of \$66,000 for the “Kiddieland” project.***

*“WHEREAS, the County of Niagara, on behalf of the Carousel Society of the Niagara Frontier, has applied to the Host Communities Standing Committee for additional funding in the amount of \$66,000.00 for the Kiddieland Project; and WHEREAS, this project was submitted to the Niagara River Greenway Commission for consultation; WHEREAS, the Host Communities Standing Committee finds the project to be consistent with the Greenway Plan. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Host Communities Standing Committee that additional funding in the amount of \$66,000.00 for the Kiddieland Project is approved; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution is forwarded to First Niagara Bank.”*

***A roll call vote was taken.***

Town of Lewiston	<u>Yes</u>
Town of Niagara	<u>Yes</u>
Lewiston Porter	<u>Yes</u>
City of Niagara Falls	<u>Yes</u>
Niagara-Wheatfield	<u>Yes</u>
Niagara County	<u>Yes</u>
New York Power Authority	<u>Yes</u>
Niagara Falls Schools	<u>Yes</u>

***The resolution was thereupon duly adopted.***

## **6.0 First Niagara Bank**

### **6.1 Municipal Banking Resolutions**

Mr. Burgasser explained that HSBC Bank is now First Niagara Bank and in order to insure a smooth transfer a new municipal resolution has to be approved by the Host Communities Standing Committee for the main checking account, as well as individual resolutions for each of the Host Communities. Don Rappold, Mayor Paul Dyster and Cynthia Bianco are the current signers for the main Checking account.

***Mr. O'Donnell made a motion that these individual remain as signatories on the main checking account for First Niagara Bank. Mr. Massaro seconded the motion. Motion passed.***

***Mr. O'Donnell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reiter, to authorize the Secretary of the Host Communities Standing Committee, Ms. Cynthia Bianco, to certify the individual signatures of the members to First Niagara Bank. Motion passed.***

## **7.0 HCSC Audit Update**

Ms. Melloni explained that Pat Brown of Brown & Company has already requested some material and he will be coming into the office August 1<sup>st</sup> to physically review the files and the Audit is on track to be finished within the timeline given to him.

## **8.0 Niagara River Greenway Commission (Informational Only)**

### **8.1 Minutes of July 17, 2012 Meetings**

## **9.0 HCSC Meeting: October 2, 2012 (if needed)**

## **10.0 Adjournment**

Mr. O'Donnell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reiter, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary P. Melloni  
Recording Secretary