

HOST COMMUNITIES

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016 – 12:00 p.m.

Niagara County Department of Economic Development

6311 Inducon Corporate Drive
Sanborn, New York 14132

Representatives Present:

Mark Laurrie	Niagara Falls City School District
Paul Casseri, Superintendent	Lewiston Porter School District
Lou Paonessa	New York Power Authority
Tom Burgasser, Esq.	Niagara County
Scott Hapeman, Esq.	Niagara Wheatfield School District
Lee Wallace, Supervisor	Town of Niagara
Steve Broderick, Supervisor	Town of Lewiston
Thomas O’Donnell, Esq.	City of Niagara Falls

Alternates/Guests:

Bernie Rotella	Town of Lewiston
Jason Havens	Clark, Patterson & Lee – Town of Niagara
Jackie Siegmann	Town of Niagara

Staff Present:

Mary Melloni, Recording Secretary
Stan Widger, Esq., NPC Counsel, Nixon Peabody
Samuel M. Ferraro, Executive Director/Commissioner - Niagara County Center for Economic Development

1.0 Call to Order

Acting Chairperson O’Donnell called the Host Communities Standing Committee meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

2.0 Roll Call

Ms. Melloni called the roll. A quorum was met

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance

Acting Chairperson O’Donnell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.0 Introductions

5.0 Town of Niagara

**5.1 Veterans Memorial at Veterans Memorial Park – L. Wallace/B. Rotella
(Approved for funding in the amount of \$340,000 by the Town of Niagara on 2/24/2016;
Determined Consistent by NRCG on 5/17/2016)**

Mr. Rotella explained that the project has been in the planning & design phase for approximately 6 months. It fits well with the Splash Pad, a project to bring power to the park, the expansion of the summer concert series with a new state of the art stage and the development of a Park Master Plan. The park is five minutes from Reservoir State Park and the I-190 and Route 31, all major transportation routes in the area.

He explained that this project advances the Park Master Plan and furthers the Town’s goal of developing the park into a year-round recreation and social gathering destination. The Town is host to the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve & Air National Guard base. With this strong military tradition, Remembrance Square will officially dedicate Veterans Memorial Park in honor of the Community’s past and present servicemen and women.

5.0 Town of Niagara

**5.1 Veterans Memorial at Veterans Memorial Park – L. Wallace/B. Rotella
(Approved for funding in the amount of \$340,000 by the Town of Niagara on 2/24/2016;
Determined Consistent by NRGC on 5/17/2016)**

The location will be on the north side of Elmers Pond, in between two of the primary parking lots. Therefore, the Town wants to ensure the safety between vehicles and pedestrians and plans for a 3-foot tall vegetated berm and a rumble strip to separate the pedestrian and vehicle traffic in this area. The berm can include wildflowers, grasses and other low vegetation.

Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard will be represented. All the appropriate flags will be highlighted behind the monuments. The site will also be handicapped accessible with several benches and illuminated by natural gas-fed eternal flame.

Mr. Rotella reviewed the consistencies with the Greenway plan (Connectivity, accessibility, ecological integrity, public well-being, and clear benefits). These are detailed in the presentation that will be attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes.

Mr. Widger stated that this project meets all procedural requirements. A motion was made by Mr. Wallace and seconded by Mr. Laurrie, to approve the request for funding in the amount of \$340,000 for the Remembrance Square at Veterans Memorial Park project.

A roll call vote was taken.

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

The resolution was thereupon approved.

6.0 Any Other Matters

6.1 Minutes of NRGC Meeting: May 17, 2016 (*Informational Only*)

7.0 Next Meeting: July 26, 2016 - 12:00 p.m.

8.0 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Mary P. Melloni
Recording Secretary