

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PARK OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT (O&M)

DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: OTHERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS MONROE
 MERLINO
 KENNY
 DICKINSON

JEFFERY TENNYSON, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AMANDA ALLEN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

SUPERVISORS BEATY
 BROCK
 CONOVER
 FRASIER
 GIRARD
 MCDEVITT
 SEEBER
 STROUGH
 TAYLOR
 WESTCOTT
 WOOD

ROBERT BLAIS, MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF LAKE GEORGE
WILLIAM LAMY, PROJECT MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER
TRAVIS WHITEHEAD, RESIDENT OF THE TOWN OF QUEENSBURY
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
SARAH MCLENITHAN, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

Mr. Monroe called the meeting of the Park Operations & Management (O&M) Committee to order at 10:32 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the agenda were distributed to the Committee members; *a copy of which is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing the agenda review, Jeffery Tennyson, Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, advised the first item on the agenda referred to concerns relating to damage to the Charles R. Wood Park and Festival Space. He stated the recent events that took place on the Festival Space resulted in a minimal amount of damage to the turf. He said a grease spill by a vendor resulted in an area of dead grass. He continued, there was also a cluster of small patches of dead grass in another area of the Park that were the result of animal urine. He apprised they were in the process of cataloging the repairs that were required. He pointed out the portions of the turf that sustained the damage were located in areas that did not contain reenforced fiber in the soil. Mr. Monroe questioned whether the funds obtained from the contractor for liquidated damages could be utilized for the repairs and Mr. Tennyson replied affirmatively. Mr. Tennyson commented the majority of the repair work could be completed in-house by County or Village of Lake George Personnel; however, he said, liquidated damages funding could be utilized to purchase any supplies and/or material required to complete the repairs.

With regards to the Village of Lake George's contract for construction, Mr. Tennyson stated a

substantial amount of grading had occurred and work had commenced on the main Park features outside of the Festival Space. Mr. Monroe commented he was pleased with the progress that had been made on the project. Mr. McDevitt mentioned he had attended the American Music Festival on September 21, 2014 and was delighted with the work that had been completed thus far on the Festival Space. He added he felt it was a great venue that would work well.

Robert Blais, Mayor of the Village of Lake George, advised that the Shrine Circus ran into difficulties setting up which caused them to miss their first performance and heavy rain dampened their second show. He commented the American Music Festival was a success, as he estimated the attendance to be over 3,000. He noted the promoter had requested to reserve dates for next year.

With regards to fencing, Mayor Blais stated the Village borrowed a fence from the Americade organizers in order to ensure there was one in place for the American Music Festival. He said the priorities going forward should be securing a fence around the perimeter of the property and purchasing stage. He stated the discussion at the September 29, 2014 P MEC (Park Management Executive Committee) meeting revolved around applying for a CFA (Consolidated Funding Application) grant to fund the purchase of the fencing and stage for the Festival Space. He commented these items were necessary to ensure the continuing success of the Festival Space. He pointed out purchasing a stage would assist in attracting promoters to use the Festival Space, as it would save them a tremendous amount of money. He noted all of the 13 events he was working with promoters to book for the Festival Space next year required fencing and a stage because they planned on charging an admission fee. He stated the P MEC requested that the ELAN Group prepare a proposal to submit with a grant application for the next round of CFA grant funding. He stated if they were able to secure grant funding for the fencing he believed it was plausible funding could be raised for their portion of the cost of the stage. He commented he thought the excessive cost of the fencing was justified, as it was required in order to continue to book events that charged admission fees.

Mr. Monroe apprised the consensus of the P MEC was that an appealing fence that complimented the Festival Space should be purchased rather than an inexpensive fence. He pointed out they would be unable to utilize other grant funding they had secured for the Festival Space because the money was awarded for specific scopes of work and could not be utilized for other purposes. Mr. Tennyson explained grant applications included a specific scope of work; therefore, he said, there were restrictions on what the funding could be utilized for. Mr. Monroe stated he felt the correct course of action was to apply for grant funding for the fencing and stage, as it was key to the success of the Festival Space and the economic benefits it would provide to the County, as well as the Village and Town of Lake George.

Mr. Kenny asked if there was a timeframe for when the CFA grant funding would be awarded and Mr. Monroe replied CFA funding awards were announced in August or September. Mayor Blais inferred a fence may not be in place by the Spring of 2015 since funding may not be available until late summer/early fall of 2015. Mr. Monroe stated the P MEC also discussed the possibility of bonding the expense for the fence, as they felt there would be a sufficient revenue stream to pay back the bond; however, he noted, grant funding was the preferred route to fund the fencing. Mayor Blais pointed out if the expense was bonded a payment would not be due for a year. He added he felt they could receive a reduced price if they could purchase and install the fence during the timeframe when the other projects were under construction, as well. Mr. Monroe commented the price range for a fence was anywhere between \$75,000 for a low end fence to \$200,000 for a higher end model.

Mayor Blais distributed photos of the set up for the American Music Festival; *copies of which are on file with the minutes*. He apprised the event was highly successful. He said he believed as long as

they continued to promote and book as many events as possible the Festival Space would be prosperous.

Mayor Blais requested to Amend Resolution No. 432 of 2014 to reflect a decrease of the fee charged to the Shrine Circus from \$3,000 to \$1,500 for the use of the Festival Space at the Charles R. Wood Park on September 13-14, 2014. He explained he felt the fee should be reduced because of the difficulties the Shrine Circus experienced with setting up and the inclement weather that impacted the attendance at their event. He continued, although the Shrine Circus had booked the Festival Space for two days they departed early on the second day due to the weather. He pointed out because the Village had requested they move their tent to ensure they would not inundate the in-ground sprinkler system they missed their first performance. He added due to the aforementioned the event was a loss for them. He stated the Village Board had approved waiving the \$1,500 fee for one of the days contingent upon receiving approval from of the Board of Supervisors. He advised they indicated they would like to return next year for a one day performance. He reminded the Committee all children were admitted to their performances for free.

Motion was made by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the October 17, 2014 Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Moving along, Mr. Tennyson advised a copy of the Village of Lake George's proposal for the maintenance of the Charles R. Wood Park was included in the agenda. He stated the proposal was based upon the Park being fully operational. Mayor Blais stated the proposal included the parking lot, as well. Mr. Monroe apprised expenses related to the parking lot would have to be separate, as they would be expended from the General Fund. Mayor Blais commented revenue received from the parking lot had been slightly more than they anticipated. He mentioned he felt the revenues from the parking lot would increase substantially when the expansion was completed. He explained the proposal included mowing, trash pick up and normal grounds maintenance, as well as cleaning and restocking the bathrooms. He said one attendant would be required seven days per week, May 1 through Columbus Day from 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. He stated the additional maintenance required when the Festival Space was rented would be billed separately. He mentioned he did not anticipate this agreement would be in place by next year, as the Park construction would not be finished until September of 2015. He suggested they evaluate the proposal after having it in effect for one year when the park was fully operational to determine whether any changes were required. Mr. Monroe added they would continue with their current agreement until the Park was fully operational.

As there was no further business to come before the Park Operations & Management (O&M) Committee, on motion made by Mr. Kenny and seconded by Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Monroe adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah McLenithan, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board