

LAKE KENOSIA COMMISSION

Minutes of the February 9, 2009 Meeting

Commission members present: Steven Landau, Patricia McCarthy, Renee Paley-Bain, Leslie Ballard da Silva

Commission members absent: Regina Ofiero, Carol Elder, K.T. Shartouni

Others present: Jack Kozuchowski

Leslie Ballard da Silva called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The minutes of the January 2009 meeting were approved as written.

Renee distributed copies of her February 6th e-mail to Regina Ofiero regarding the city's proposed spray park at the town park. Jack reported that this is part of the Open Space Bond and it is currently pending DEP permit. The water will go into the city sewage system and it will have no impact on the vegetative buffer.

Renee's e-mail included an "Update on garbage in the lot adjacent to the Moose [Lodge]." She had called the city's 311 line to report dumped equipment and debris on the lake shore, but had not heard anything definitive back.

Leslie inquired about the proposed walkway into the marsh at the Kenosia Avenue bridge, and expressed concerns over the negative impact it might have on the ecosystem and neighborhood (disturbing the wildlife, creating excess car and pedestrian traffic, parking, vandalism, and mosquito-borne illnesses). Jack reported that a waterway through the marsh might be expanded to allow boats—Leslie expressed concern that more water flow under the bridge might lower the lake. Leslie has photographs of continual dumping, open fires, and vandalism at the opposite end of the lake, which would likely occur on the new walkway at night. Renee suggested that pedestrian traffic would be made safer if a walkway was built on both sides of the narrow bridge, and it was agreed that this could include a platform extending into the marsh for viewing. Jack suggested that Leslie contact the head of the Conservation Commission to get on their meeting agenda to present these ideas.

Renee also brought up a question about a report she had read concerning the future of the Kenosia Commission. Jack reported that the Sunset Committee reviews commissions regularly, and this is just a formality—there is no plan to terminate the Kenosia Commission.

Leslie then turned the meeting over to Jack for his update.

I. Jack reported that the first grand proposal is prepared for the Meserve Foundation (it has to be submitted through a 501C3 -- the Land Trust). Once

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completed, the vegetative buffer will be introduced to the public with a community event, a permanent information kiosk, and an in-service day event for local schoolteachers. The proposal includes \$3,000 for these items. Jack will be able to announce at the next meeting whether or not the proposal has been approved. He will show a slide presentation at the next meeting.

The vegetative buffer is projected to be completed over the summer, and the proposed community events will take place in the fall. Dodona Associates will create the landscape design plan to use for contractor's bids. All bids are due on March 12th. Once chosen, Dodona will oversee and monitor the contractor. Camilla Ward Designs, which has done all the previous work, will also submit a bid.

II. Jack has a meeting scheduled with an independent fundraising company on February 24. The Commission is considering raising funds in order to reduce its dependence on the City.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, March 16, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. Please let Regina know whether or not you will attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Ballard da Silva