

**Minutes of the Executive Committee**  
**Of the**  
**Niagara River Greenway Commission**  
**Beaver Island State Park**  
**January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 @ 2:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Kresse at 2:12 p.m. and the roll was called by Secretary Alice Roth. A quorum of members was present.

Attendees: Robert Kresse, Chairman  
Tom DeSantis for Paul Dyster, Vice Chairman and Citizen Advisory  
Committee Chair  
Alice Roth, Secretary  
Ron Pillozzi, Chairman Local Government Advisory Committee  
Mark Thomas, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation  
David Hahn-Baker, Commissioner  
Rob Belue, Executive Director, Niagara River Greenway Commission

Absent: John Giardino, Treasurer

**Review and Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the November 17th, 2009 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Mark Thomas and seconded by Commissioner Alice Roth. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously as submitted.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Financial Report/Funding Status**

On behalf of John Giardino, Executive Director Rob Belue reported that thru 12/31/09 the funds in the budget are \$21,919.15. Most of the spending has gone towards salaries. The Greenway is not spending a lot of money. Commissioner Mark Thomas gave a funding update. The \$300,000 has been cleared by the budget and needs to be put in the NHT account. This has taken half the year, but is proceeding. Commissioner Pillozzi asked if the \$300,000 will cover expenses. Rob Belue said it would. Tom DeSantis asked if a new budget needed to be submitted. There will be a new budget presented at the March meeting. Chairman Kresse introduced some people in attendance, Bill Nowak from Senator Thompson's office, former Commissioner Paul Leuchner and Ben Bedell. There was nothing further on funding.

**Update-War of 1812 pass through account**

Executive Director Rob Belue reported that as per the last meeting, Chairman Kresse has established a committee for a funding account pass through for the War of 1812. Commissioner Paul Dyster will represent the Greenway for this committee. It has been established to act as a pass through for funding. NHT said they will work with the

Commission as long as there is a signature person and that the account works within the NYS Procurement Guidelines. There will be more information on this as it approaches. Chairman Kresse said this event belongs not only to the Niagara Region but South to the Carolinas' as well. There needs to be some involvement by the Federal Government and there should be a lot of effort into planning this celebration. Tom DeSantis said that two years is not a long time and it needs to be planned correctly. Rob Belue said after the meeting with John Percy, he is going to reach out to the new president of the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) of Erie County who has expressed interest. Commissioner Hahn-Baker feels that there is a story to be told between the US and Canada. Chairman Kresse talked with Bill Nowak and Rob Belue about sponsoring a Legislation; which would give the Greenway more ability to do things. Executive Director Belue added that Senator's Thompson and Hoyt will be working on the Legislation. Commissioner Thomas asked if there can be a review of the Legislation before it is presented. The Greenway can review it at anytime and Chairman Kresse asked that the Greenway have representation.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Thomas asked if there was a date set for Paddles Up. Executive Director Belue announced that it will be on July 24<sup>th</sup> and he is working with Dave Clark and the Boy Scouts for the event. More information will be presented at a later date.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting of the Executive Committee was made by Tom DeSantis and seconded by Commissioner Alice Roth. The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

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Niagara River Greenway Commission