

MONROE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes for October 18, 2023

In Attendance:

Tom Dooley – At Large; *Chairperson*

Haines Lockhart – At Large; *Program and Presentations Committee Chair*

Bill Santos – At Large; *Nominating and Community Liaison Committee Chair*

Paul Johnson - *Town of Brighton*

Jake Straub - *Town of Clarkson*

Larry Lazenby - *Town of Chili*

Charles Johnson - *Town of Gates*

Steve Rutherford - *Town of Hamlin*

Andy Less - *Town of Honeoye Falls*

Bill Parkhurst - *Town of Ogden*

Cynette Cavaliere - *Town of Penfield*

Mark Gaul - *Town of Perinton*

Caroline Kilmer - *Town of Pittsford*

Greg Adams - *Town of Riga*

Pat Kraus – *Town of Rush*

Clement Chung - *MCDES*

Yasmin Guevera - *MCDES*

Steve Olufsen - *MC Planning & Development (non-member)*

Ryan Parra-Merrell - *MCDPH (non-member)*

Starr O’Neil - *MCDPH*

Madison Quinn - *MCDES (non-member)*

Sally Howard - *FMCE (non-member)*

Brandon Fleming - *County Law Department*

Richard Spade - *Public*

Meeting location:

- Monroe County Fleet Center, Building 1 Conference Room
145 Paul Road, Rochester 14624

Call to Order:

- Meeting was called to order at 3:58pm

Review of Minutes:

- Motion to approve by Bill Santos; seconded by Steve Rutherford.

Meeting Topic(s):

Overview Monroe County Parks Department (presented by Robert Kiley and Chris Kirchmaier)

- Monroe County Parks
 - 23 county parks, covering over 12,000 acres
 - 32 athletic fields
 - 3 golf courses
 - 3 dog parks
 - Also includes Seneca Park Zoo, Lamberton Conservatory, Webster Campground, Springdale Farm, Wild Wings, Ontario Beach, and Reidman Fish Hatchery
- Roles and Responsibilities of Parks Department
 - Oversees parks and facilities
 - Improvements and renovations to facilities
 - Handles special events and recreational reservations
- Recent Investment Highlights
 - \$16.6 million spent on recent investments
 - Renovations to Ontario Beach Park's Roger Robach Community Center (HVAC and window improvements), as well as Carousel (lighting and floor improvements)
 - In-house restroom renovations.
 - Road and parking lot improvements.
 - Park lighting upgrades throughout system
 - New playgrounds at Powder Mills and Ontario Beach. New synthetic ice rink at Ontario Beach.
 - Installation of 8 new pickle ball Courts at Black Creek Park and Mendon Ponds
 - New paving at golf courses (delayed by weather)
 - Piping and boiler system at Lamberton Conservatory replaced.
 - Accessible mats at Ontario Beach and boardwalk replacement at Mendon Ponds.
- Upcoming Investments
 - New park in Henrietta.
 - Labor center at Powder Mills.
 - Parks waterline investigation, mapping, and repair
 - Children's Pavilion at Highland Park.
 - Construction and renovation of memorials.
- Seneca Park Zoo Updates
 - Giraffe was born, and another added to the zoo.
 - Zoo will start breeding Eastern Massasagua Rattlesnakes and endangered Panamanian Golden Frogs.
- Parks Conservation Efforts
 - 940 new trees planted throughout parks during current administration. (Ash trees killed by invasive Emerald Ash Borer replaced by other native plants such as oak, crab apple red gums, etc. Different species do better in different parks.
 - Meadowfield Restoration Project.
 - Park cleanup events.

Committee Reports:

- **Executive** - Tom Dooley

- Burt Gorton has resigned from both positions as Environmental Management Council Vice Chair and Natural Resources Committee Chair.
- **Program and Presentations** - Haines Lockhart
 - Speaker for November meeting will be Anita O'Brien (Rochester Accessible Adventures).
- **Nominating and Community Liaison** - Bill Santos
 - 6 outstanding representative positions for municipalities.
 - Nominations to fill positions of Vice Chair and Natural Resources Committee Chair can be sent to Tom or Starr.
 - There are also vacant positions on Executive Committee to be filled.
 - Council has also been asked to review liaison list.
 - Next Nominating and Community Liaison meeting will be October 25.

Staff Reports:

- **Starr O'Neil** - Possible fishkill at Genesee River. Also discussed food inspection process at request of EMC.
- **Clement Chung** - Town of Greece continuing hazardous waste collection. Town of Mendon had pharmaceutical recycling event.
- **Madison Quinn** - Climate Action Plan Phase 2 being worked on. Over 600 responses from community feedback survey. Looking for stakeholders.
- **Steve Olufsen** - Fish Advisory Board is discussing development of offshore reef in Lake Ontario. Will be a long process.
- **Yasmin Guevera** - Working on Organic Management Plan. Discussing with Foodlink to act as repository for restaurants to donate extra food waste.

Other Business and Announcements:

- Town of Perinton honored and recognizer former member of Environmental Management Council, Chris Fredette.

Press Release: <https://perinton.org/news/town-of-perinton-honors-45-year-conservation-board-member-chris-fredette-with-plaque-dedication/>

YouTube Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9Ku7xOkjgg>

- Charles Johnson (Gates) – Working on developing new public market in Gates. Solicited vendor suggestions from the group.

Adjourn:

- Meeting was adjourned at 5:35. Motion to adjourn by Steve Rutherford; seconded by Bill Santos.