

TOWN OF LEWISTON

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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION August 12, 2019 6:30 PM

PRESENT: Chairmen J. Wolfgang; J Allen; D. Balassone; Z. Collister; B. Davey; V. Polka; M. Feldman;

Board Liaison Bax

GUEST: Steve Lyle; Amy Witryol

MINUTES:

Chairman Wolfgang took attendance.

The Commission engaged in discussion of the proposed Town Park located on River Rd. The commission has not yet received answers from GHD to questions the Commission had regarding GHD Riverfront Site Characterization Report for the park. Chairman Wolfgang asked Councilman Bax about the grant for this park, to which Bax answered that the Town may have lost that grant over verbiage. Chairman Wolfgang also asked about the use of the building existing at the park currently being used for Town storage. Councilman Bax has heard no plans for that building. Councilman Bax if the Commission had sent a letter with a decision regarding the park. Chairman Wolfgang answered that we had not, and that we are waiting until we have the questions answered from GHD. B. Davey asked Councilman Bax what the other plans for the park are as the Commission only saw an idea, not an official site-plan. Chairman Wolfgang suggested that the Commission typically only sees plans that are complete for approval. Councilman Bax was in agreement with the notion.

To recap what the Commission's viewpoint is; The Commission will submit letter to Town Board and Kathy G. from GHD with questions we want answered prior to taking action on the Town Park. For the Commission to issue a negative declaration, the Commission would need to review final plans for the town park with what will actually be implemented. J. Allen motioned for the prior statements and V. Polka seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Amy Witryol added that the Greenway application stated 300' of dockage for a kayak launch and suggested that we question GHD about it. Amy urged the Commission and Town Board to send GHD answers and report to the Department of Health and ask them if they were the Lead Agency, would they have asked for additional sampling. Amy mentioned that the Niagara River is a Class A waterway for mercury and was wondering if the mercury content found at the site should be verified for leaching risk into the river. Commission will investigate this further.

V. Polka asked about the solar project brought to us at last meeting. The Commission has not seen the full SEQRA.

J. Allen asked about the isotopes mentioned in an article Chairman Wolfgang shared with Commission. Amy Witryol mentioned that the Army Corps want to revisit each of the sites for review. J. Allen also informed the group about the old school located on Balmer Rd between 1967 – 1970. There is a group of classmates starting to meet due to commonality to having cancer.

B. Davey made motion to approve June 17th minutes, V. Polka seconded and the motion carried. D. Balassone made a motion to approve July 8th minutes and B. Davey seconded, Z. Collister & M. Feldman abstained and the motion carried.

Next meeting scheduled for September 10th, 7:00PM.

B. Davey made a motion to adjourn, M. Feldman seconded the motion and the motion carried.