

Supervisor Sheila M. Meegan called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with 30 seconds of silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Town Clerk Jacqueline Felser.

ROLL CALL: Present - Sheila M. Meegan Supervisor
Eugene P. Hart Councilman
William P. Hanley, Jr. Councilman

Absent - None

Supervisor Meegan read the Fire Prevention Code instructing the public where to exit in case of a fire or an emergency.

The meeting was dedicated to the memory of John Weixlmann and Larry Hughes.

24-A MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

- Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hart, to approve Minutes #2019-23 of November 18, 2019.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

24-B HELD OVER PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Re: "A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN CREATION OF ELECTRIC LIGHTING DISTRICT #68 – ROYAL COACH ROAD/DEER CHASE ROAD" in the Town of West Seneca.

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to receive and file this item.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

2. Re: "A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. 5 FOR THE YEAR 2019, AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 13, CODE OF ETHICS" in the Town of West Seneca.

Supervisor Meegan stated adoption of this local law will be held over until January 2020.

3. Re: "A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR A SPECIAL PERMIT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 299 LEYDECKER ROAD, BEING A PART OF LOT NO. 396, CHANGING ITS CLASSIFICATION FROM R-60A TO R-60A(S), FOR 74 ATTACHED RESIDENTIAL UNITS" in the Town of West Seneca.

Supervisor Meegan stated the Board is addressing legal concerns with Town Attorney Tina Hawthorne and the item will remain tabled.

24-B HELD OVER PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. (continued)

Councilman Hanley stated if the Town Board approves the special permit, the project begins and residents have the right to sue the developer. If the Town Board denies the special permit, the developer will sue the town and if the Judge approves the project there will be no restrictions on it (i.e. 1.38 acres will not have to be preserved as open space). If there is litigation, the town will have to hire an attorney at a minimum cost of \$20,000 to the taxpayers.

24-C PUBLIC COMMENTS ON COMMUNICATIONS - None

24-D COMMUNICATIONS

1. Highway Sup't. re Title change for Michael Meegan to Working Crew Chief

Motion by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to terminate Michael Meegan as Building and Grounds Laborer and appoint him Working Crew Chief, Group 6, Step 5 at a rate of \$32.59 per hour as per the Blue Collar Contract effective December 3, 2019 and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

On the question, Highway Supt. Matthew English stated Mr. Meegan has worked for the town for 28 years and he is very deserving of this position. He has been performing the duties since late September and proper procedures were followed per the Blue Collar contract.

Ayes: (2) Councilman Hart, Councilman Hanley

Noes: None

Abstentions: (1) Supervisor Meegan

Motion Carried

2. Highway Sup't. re Title change for Cooper Panek to full-time Laborer in Buildings & Grounds

Motion by Councilman Hart, seconded by Supervisor Meegan, to terminate Cooper Panek as part-time Buildings & Grounds Laborer and appoint him full-time Buildings & Grounds Laborer, Group 1, Step 1, at a rate of \$21.93 per hour effective December 3, 2019 and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

On the question, Highway Supt. Matthew English stated Mr. Panek has been with the town since 2017, he has the most time of the seasonal employees and he has done an outstanding job.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

24-D COMMUNICATIONS

3. Highway Sup't. re Title change for Colin Brown to Highway Laborer

Motion by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to terminate Colin Brown as Sanitation Motor Equipment Operator and appoint him Highway Laborer Group 1, Step 3 at a rate of \$24.18 per hour effective December 3, 2019 and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried
4. Highway Sup't. re Title change for Timothy Stevenson to Sanitation Motor Equipment operator

Motion by Councilman Hart, seconded by Supervisor Meegan, to terminate Timothy Stevenson as Sanitation Laborer and appoint him Sanitation Motor Equipment Operator, Group 7, Step 3 at a rate of \$24.17 per hour effective December 3, 2019 and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried
5. Chief Denz re Appointment of Tyler Kluck as part-time Public Safety Dispatcher

Motion by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to terminate Tyler Kluck as Sanitation Alternate and appoint him part-time Public Safety Dispatcher effective December 3, 2019 at a rate of \$15 per hour and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried
6. Town Clerk re Leave of absence for Amy Kobler

Motion by Councilman Hart, seconded by Supervisor Meegan, to grant a leave of absence for Amy Kobler from her civil service position of Cashier effective December 14, 2019 through December 13, 2020 and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

24-D COMMUNICATIONS

- 7. Deputy Town Clerk re Appointment of Shauna Slater as full-time provisional Cashier

Motion by Councilman Hanley, seconded by Councilman Hart, to terminate Shauna Slater as part-time clerk and appoint her full-time provisional Cashier, Group 3, Step 1 at an annual salary of \$35,718.99 effective December 16, 2019 and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

- 8. Town Justices re Appointment of Julie Korczynski as full-time Court Clerk

Motion by Councilman Hanley, seconded by Supervisor Meegan, to terminate Julie Korczynski as Clerk to the Town Justice and appoint her Court Clerk effective December 3, 2019 at her current rate of pay and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

- 9. Town Justices re Attendance at 2020 NYS Association of Towns Training & Conference

Motion by Councilman Hanley, seconded by Councilman Hart, to authorize three Court Clerks and one Judge to attend the Association of Towns Annual Meeting in New York City, February 15 - 18, 2020 at a cost not to exceed \$1600 each, noting this training will satisfy the mandatory credit hours that all court clerks are required to receive in 2020.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

- 10. Recreation Supervisor re Resignation of Emily Baker as part-time Youth Service Coordinator

Motion by Councilman Hanley, seconded by Councilman Hart, to accept the resignation of Emily Baker as part-time Youth Service Coordinator effective December 30, 2019 and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

24-D COMMUNICATIONS

11. Recreation Supervisor re Re-appointment of Joseph Drajem as part-time Recreation Attendant

Motion by Councilman Hanley, seconded by Councilman Hart, to re-appoint Joseph Drajem as part-time Recreation Attendant at a rate of \$13.75 per hour effective December 2, 2019 through May 31, 2020 and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel, noting the position will be paid from account line 001.7140.0149, Salary of Laborers-part-time and the rate increase is contingent upon Mr. Drajem providing a valid First Aid/CPR certification no later than January 1, 2020; failure to provide this will result in the pay rate being amended to \$12.50 per hour retroactive to December 2, 2019.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

12. Recreation Supervisor re 2020 Over 30 Hockey program

Motion by Councilman Hanley, seconded by Supervisor Meegan, to approve the 2020 Over 30 Hockey program.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

13. Supervisor Meegan re AIM funding

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hart, to adopt the following resolution to restore AIM funding for the Town of West Seneca:

WHEREAS, AIM funding is unrestricted aid provided to municipalities by New York State for the years; and

WHEREAS, the West Seneca Town Board supports legislation (S.6844) introduced by Senator Patrick Gallivan related to the AIM Funding program and to ensure payments are made to dozens of towns and villages in Erie and Nassau Counties; and

WHEREAS, as part of the 2019 budget process, traditional AIM funding was replaced by a portion of the state sales tax; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the State Comptroller indicated the change did not allow sales tax funds to be distributed to municipalities in counties with Fiscal Control Boards, such as Erie and Nassau; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the West Seneca Town Board strongly supports Legislation S.6844 that would restore AIM Funding at 100 percent moving forward to Erie and Nassau Counties; and be it further

24-D COMMUNICATIONS

13. (continued)

RESOLVED, AIM funding benefits all of our residents in Erie & Nassau Counties and the loss of this funding would put an unnecessary burden on the backs of local taxpayers that could result in the reduction of services, program cuts and layoffs; and be it further

RESOLVED, a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Honorable Governor Andrew M Cuomo, Honorable Speaker of the Assembly Carl E Heastie, Honorable Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Honorable Republican Minority Leader John Flanagan, Honorable Majority Leader of the Assembly Crystal People-Stokes, Honorable Minority Leader of the Assembly Brian Kolb, the Western New York Delegation and Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz and the Erie County Legislature.

On the question, Supervisor Meegan stated AIM funding has been restored, but the NYS Association of Towns has asked that each town adopt a resolution in support.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

14. Supervisor Meegan re Arborist for Leydecker Road tree situation

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hart, to hire an arborist to determine the status of trees to be removed at 147 Leydecker Road.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

15. Supervisor Meegan re Appointment of Erik Finbar as Acting Assessor

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hart to appoint Erik Finbar as Acting Assessor for the Town of West Seneca for the sole purpose of signing the necessary documents for compliance reasons, including but not limited to tax assessment challenge settlements.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

16. Councilman Hart re Friends of Burchfield Center annual report

Councilman Hart entered into the record the attached annual report of the Friends of the Burchfield Center.

24-E APPROVAL OF WARRANT

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to approve the vouchers submitted for audit, chargeable to the respective funds as follows: General Fund - \$2,406,578.06; Highway Fund - \$659,321.55; Sewer Fund - \$47,001.04; Gas Conversion - \$36.04; Electric Lighting - \$882.53 (vouchers 8422 - 9026)

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

- Residents of Royal Coach Road and Deer Chase Road stated the following comments on the proposed lighting district
 - ✓ Presented a petition signed by additional property owners from Royal Coach Road that are opposed to creation of the lighting district
 - ✓ Two residents expressed their disappointment that the lights are not going to be installed. They want the lights for the safety of their children and are willing to circulate another petition.
 - ✓ Ken Hansen stated he started the petition for the safety of the residents and he did inform homeowners of the costs when seeking signatures. It was not his intention to turn neighbors against each other. The original lighting request was for Deer Chase Road only and he would like the project to proceed with this street only. Councilman Hanley stated they can start the process again with just one street. The residents will be able to select the type of lights and the underground wiring. Town Engineer Steven Tanner explained that NYSEG will set boundaries for the project based on the current power supply. The contiguous properties being covered need to be identified and an estimated cost can be attached to the petition.
- A resident commended the Highway Department on leaf pickup in town.
- Beverly Leising of West Seneca Cares thanked those that donated for gifts to Seneca Manor residents.
- A resident commented on the reduced salaries for newly elected officials and thought they should have stayed the same as the current salaries.
- Amy Carpenter, Chairperson of the Ethics Board, commented on the tabling of the Ethics Code and requested the Town Board vote on part of the amendments. Councilman Hanley stated the issue is whether the Ethics Board can impose punishment on employees that are covered by a union contract. Supervisor Meegan explained that if any changes are made another public hearing is required.
- James Manley of the West Seneca Veterans Committee stated a Pearl Harbor Day ceremony will be held Saturday, December 7th at noon in the Community Center meeting room. Erie County Clerk Michael Kearns will honor Purple Heart recipients following the ceremony. Mr. Manley further expressed his gratitude to Lauren Masset & Emily Baker for their time and support of veteran's events.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

SENIOR RECREATION THERAPIST OF SENIOR SERVICES

- A HEAP outreach sponsored by County Legislator Joseph Lorigo will be held December 6, 2019 at the senior citizens center.

RECREATION SUPERVISOR LAUREN MASSET

- Acknowledged and thanked Emily Baker for her numerous contributions to the Recreation Department's programs

CHIEF OF POLICE DANIEL M DENZ

- PBA "No Shave November" raised \$2350 for Roswell Park and Wings

COUNCILMAN HART

- Questioned the status of leaf collection – Highway Sup't. Matthew English stated they are in their second round of collection and currently in Zone 1.

TOWN CLERK JACQUELINE FELSER

- Commented on her upcoming retirement; acknowledged Supervisor Meegan, Councilmen Hanley and Hart, Chief Denz, Highway Sup't. Matthew English, Code Enforcement and Assessor's offices, Town Attorney Tina Hawthorne, Town Engineer Steven Tanner & Engineering Department, Senior Recreation Therapist Mary Josefiak, Recreation Supervisor Lauren Masset, Town Clerk's office staff past and present and thanked everyone for their support and friendship over the course of her career with the Town of West Seneca

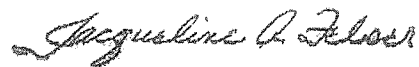
ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hart, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried



JACQUELINE A FELSER, TOWN CLERK



TO: Sheila Meegan
Eugene Hart
William Hanley
Amy Kobler

FROM: Friends of the BNAC

DATE: 11/25/19

RE: BNAC 2018 – 2019 Annual Report

Attached please find the Annual Report of the Friends of the Burchfield Nature and Art Center. The report includes a narrative with highlights of the past year and a more comprehensive list. We are also including the financial summary.

The BNAC volunteers are always inspired by visitor response to the facility. It is evident that community appreciates having a cultural center that focuses on nature, art, history and music. We are currently planning events and activities for 2020 and look forward to again fulfilling our community service mission.

Please enter this report into record.

2019 DEC -2 PM 0:13



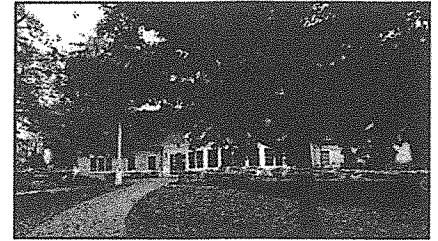
Friends of the Burchfield Nature & Art Center
2019 Annual Report
October 2018 – September 2019

**Friends of the Burchfield Nature and Art Center mission statement:
Serve community interests in art, recreation, music, history, and nature by
providing a welcoming and educational facility**

This year, volunteers donated over 4,070 hours to meet this mission. The BNAC volunteers assure this unique facility remains a dynamic asset and a point of pride for the Town of West Seneca.

Parklands :

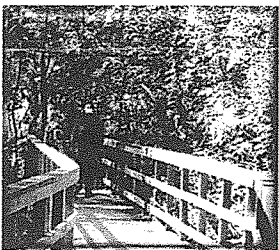
The BNAC park was more beautiful than ever in Autumn of 2018. The colors were brilliant and people arrived from all over Western New York to enjoy the foliage. In February 2019, the park experienced significant ice jam flooding. Paths were washed out, gullies formed, trees fell, and erosion took a toll on creek banks. When the water receded, the park was covered in mud and debris. Many people took part in the park clean-up. From shoveling inches of mud out of the amphitheater to clearing dead limbs and litter, people who value BNAC stepped up to help get the park ready for spring and summer. The flood washed away weed barriers and mulch and distributed a variety of invasive weeds in the garden beds. Efforts to restore the gardens have begun, but could take years.



Volunteers work to keep the woodlands healthy and assure the wellbeing of the wildlife. White pine, maple and chestnut seedlings were planted this year in an effort to replace trees killed by emerald ash borer. These trees will eventually form a new canopy. The loss of ash trees lets more sunlight into the woodlands allowing young trees to grow quickly. The milkweed we have been nurturing has flourished this year encouraging butterflies to fill the park.

There is a constant need to educate the public about their interactions with nature. Using signage, pamphlets, direct interaction, and good example has helped assure our swimming, flying and scampering friends have a safe and healthy home. By coordinating our activities with other groups, gardens are tended, paths are raked, bird baths are cleaned, litter is picked up, dog clean-up bags are provided, and trees and shrubs are trimmed. Scout troops have added seating to the Seneca Nation Treaty area, posted poison ivy signs and added new bat boxes.

The number of visitors to the park increases every year. They come to explore the gardens, woodlands and creek. They come to learn about Charles Burchfield, the Seneca Nation and the Ebenezers. The BNAC volunteers enhance the visitor experience by providing pamphlets about the history of the area, butterfly brochures, bird guides, and tree guides. Families enjoy the scavenger hunt sheets that engage the kids in exploring beyond the playground. Volunteers are available to answer questions, interact with visitors and help coordinate activities in the park (weddings, field trips, and scout and school projects)



Of the 4,070 volunteers hours served this year, over 1,200 were spent caring for the park and ensuring that this unique urban forest remains a safe and beautiful place for all to experience and enjoy.

Art:

Though the gallery is still closed, art is an important element at the BNAC. Activities, events, and learning opportunities include a variety of artistic endeavors.

In November 2018, the Annual Photo Contest brightened up the concourse at the West Seneca Community Center. The photographers enjoyed coming together to share their hobby. Kenn Morgan offered photography lessons in the spring and fall. Woodcarvers Seminars returned to the center in June with a 5-day Beechnut carving seminar. Watercolor classes conducted by Pam Russel focused on Charles Burchfield's style of painting. Nancy Barlow gave two presentations on the life and times of Charles Burchfield. A presentation of Beach Glass



Treasures was given by Nancy Williams. Our yearly Poster Contest in partnership with Modern Disposal Services was themed “Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.” The Exhibit was held at the West Seneca Community Center from in April. Frank O’Connor’s on-going art project in the park continues to be a major attraction.

Events:

In October 2018, a Tea Party was held at St. Johns’ Lutheran Church and featured Amy Burgess’ talk on “The History of the Common Button.” At the Holiday Open House, people enjoyed an afternoon playing games, creating crafts, and engaging in conversation. Earth Day Park Clean up in May had over 50 volunteers cleaning the park. The Seneca Nation Treaty Commemoration Ceremony included a history lesson about the BNAC park area as it was over 150 years ago. Families came out in June for a chance to “Discover the Park” during the annual scavenger hunt. On July 24th, hundreds of people filled the park for the Enchanted Forest event. They enjoyed the magic of nature with fairy house building, crafts, games and a Fairy Tea House full of treats. The Summer Concerts attracted many visitors for evenings of music in a beautiful setting. Music this year included Grandfathers Orchestra, Doug Yeoman’s Band, My Cousin Tone’ and Carnival Kids Steel Band. Wonderful Wednesdays, from July 17th to August 14th, provided a chance for families to explore art activities, play games, and make new friends.



Community Outreach and Promotion:

BNAC volunteers recognize that the park plays a major role in the community. We work to improve public awareness of the facility and its unique connection to nature, art and history.



To spread the word about the BNAC, the volunteers were at four West Seneca Farmer’s Markets, West Seneca Nite Out, the Health Fair held at the Community Center, the Nature and Science event and Taste of West Seneca. Presentations were given to the West Seneca Rotary Club, West Seneca Woman’s Club, and Villa Maria College. Local media, Internet recognition and our popular Facebook and Instagram pages help share information about the park and events at BNAC.

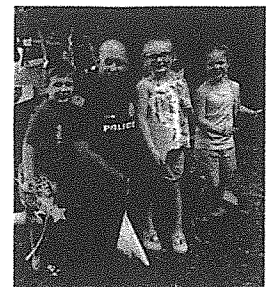
Our Chamber of Commerce membership facilitates networking and promotion. By partnering with other groups like Boy and Girl Scouts, Day Habilitation Programs, West Seneca Woman’s Club, Amana Garden Club, West Seneca Environmental Commission, Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, Pokemon players and others we are better able to meet our mission.

BNAC volunteers attend Town Board meetings to ensure we understand the workings of the town and the BNAC’s place in the town.

Thanks:

BNAC volunteers are grateful to those who have supported our efforts. The Town Highway Department and Building and Grounds staff have assured that the park is safe and beautiful for visitors and wildlife. The Youth and Recreation Department provides guidance and facilitates our interaction with Youth Engaged in Service. We appreciate the continued presence and involvement of the West Seneca Police Department.

We thank those who are Members of the BNAC for their continued loyalty. Gratitude is also extended to the WNY Federal Credit Union, the West Seneca Woman’s Club, Dolores Mendolia, the West Seneca Rotary, Gene and Nancy Hart and DMD Builders who have generously helped us to meet our goals.



Most importantly we thank the thousands of people who visit, value, and respect, the Burchfield Nature and Art Center.

Burchfield Nature and Art Center Revenue and Expense Report

Fiscal Year Oct. 1, 2018 - Sept. 30, 2019

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Beginning Balance | Oct. 1, 2018 | \$20,247.40 |
| | Revenue | \$6,277.00 |
| | Expenses | <u>(\$4,796.27)</u> |
| Ending Balance | Sept. 30, 2019 | <u><u>\$21,728.18</u></u> |
| Revenue Sources | | |
| | 1 Membership | \$730.00 |
| | 2 Concert Sponsors | \$1,575.00 |
| | 3 Donations | \$1,270.00 |
| | 4 Wonderbook | \$1,453.00 |
| | 5 Bldg.& Grounds | \$530.00 |
| | 6 Misc. - Photo Contest, Tea, Shirts | <u>\$719.00</u> |
| | | \$6,277.00 |
| Expenses | | |
| | 1 Concerts | \$1,450.00 |
| | 2 Volunteer Lunch & Shirts | \$1,021.61 |
| | 3 Office | \$837.08 |
| | 4 Printing, Publicity, Website, Chamber of Commerce | \$1,006.53 |
| | 5 Misc. - Garden, Earth Day, Poster Contest, Enchanted Forest | \$481.05 |
| | | <u>\$4,796.27</u> |