

22-B COMMUNICATIONS

1. (continued)

On the question, Councilman Hanley explained Mr. Dyson was appointed temporary approximately two years ago to fill a vacancy in the Sewer Department. He has had good attendance and a good work ethic, so he is now being changed to permanent full-time.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

2. Town Engineer re Deduct change orders for Phase 2 and 3 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to authorize the Supervisor to sign all necessary paperwork on the Phase 2 & 3 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project for deduct change order number four in the amount of \$204,586.75 for reimbursement on a wage rate issue and deduct change order number five in the amount of \$37,800.25 to reconcile quantities bid versus quantities installed.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

3. Town Engineer re Deduct change orders for Buildings and Grounds roofing project

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to authorize the Supervisor to sign all necessary paperwork on the Buildings & Grounds Roofing Project for deduct change order number one in the amount of \$10,000 for unused allowance money.

On the question, Town Attorney John Fenz stated engineering contracts build in contingencies for amounts that may be unforeseen. Close monitoring of projects by the engineers prevents unnecessary use of these contingent amounts, which creates a deduct change order.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

4. Chief Denz re Budget transfer request

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to authorize the transfer of funds as listed and re-appropriate them as follows:

- \$6,000 from 1.3120.0139 Police Warrant Clerk to 1.3120.0153 Detective
- \$30,000 from 1.3120.0416 Police Gasoline to 1.3120.0208 Purchase of Police Vehicles
- \$7,074.05 from 1.3120.0164 Community Policing Program Salary and distribute as follows:
\$1,460.84 to 1.3120.0150 Captain; \$2,373.07 to 1.3120.0153 Detective; \$885.49 to 1.3120.0154 Police Officer; \$1,843.37 to 1.3120.0161 Police Lieutenant; \$511.28 to 1.3120.0163 Detective Lieutenant

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

22-B COMMUNICATIONS

5. Sr. Code Enforcement Officer re Rezoning application – 2730 Transit Road Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to refer to the Planning Board the rezoning application for 2730 Transit Road from M-1 to C-2.

On the question, Senior Code Enforcement Officer John Gullo stated the applicant will take down the existing buildings and maintain a tree conservation area as part of the project.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

6. Senior Recreation Therapist of Sr. Services re Status change for Janet Kropczynski Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hart, to change the status of part-time clerk typist Janet Kropczynski to part-time seasonal effective December 1, 2016 to January 31, 2017 and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

7. Town Engineer re Bid award for Sewer District 6 Sewer Main Repair Project Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hanley to table this item.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

8. Finance Department re Budget transfer request Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to approve the following resolution creating accounts for zoning contractual expenses and planning contractual expenses and transferring funds into said accounts:

WHEREAS, per the Department of State, Division of Local Government services, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals members are required by state statute to obtain four hours of training a year; and

WHEREAS, the town provided this training to all members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board this year to allow them the opportunity to cover the Comprehensive Plan, new design statute and the tree ordinance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize creation of account 1.8010.0414 "Zoning Contractual Expenses" and 1.8020.0414 "Planning Contractual Expenses"; and be it further

22-B COMMUNICATIONS

8. (continued)

RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize transfer of \$945.50 from General Fund Contingency account to Zoning Contractual Expense account 1.8010.0414; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize transfer of \$945.50 from General Fund Contingency account to Planning Contractual Expense account 1.8020.0414.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

9. Supervisor Meegan re Erie County Intermunicipal Snow Removal and Ice Control Agreement

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to authorize the Supervisor to execute the attached intermunicipal agreement with Erie County for snow removal and ice control.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried
APPENDICES

10. Town Engineer re Appointment of Angela Johnson as winter intern

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hart, to appoint Angela Johnson as winter intern in the Engineering Department for 35 hours per week at a rate of \$11.50 per hour effective December 16, 2016 – January 11, 2017, noting funding is available for this position in Acct. #1.1440.0149, and authorize the Supervisor to complete and sign the necessary forms for Erie County Personnel.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

22-C REPORTS

- Jacqueline A Felser, Town Clerk's report for October 2016 received and filed.

22-D 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 - \$348,842.69; Highway Fund - \$133,301.13; Special Districts - \$11,695.61; Capital Fund - \$619,865.48 (vouchers 96465-97160) Trust Fund - \$270,802.65 (vouchers 97059-97079)

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

ROSEWOOD DRIVE PROJECT

Barb Lipiew questioned when trees will be planted for the Rosewood Drive reconstruction project. Supervisor Meegan advised trees will be planted in the spring and a questionnaire will be mailed to homeowners to select the type. If any homeowners decline, the trees are planted elsewhere.

BILLBOARD MORATORIUM

Susan Kims questioned the status of a moratorium on billboards. Town Attorney John Fenz stated he researched the issue and will address this with the Town Board. A local law is required and he will have additional information by the next Town Board meeting.

INSTANT TICKETING SYSTEM

Susan Kims questioned the instant ticketing system for code violations used by the City of Lackawanna. Senior Code Enforcement Officer John Gullo stated it was determined the system is cost prohibitive.

SENIOR RECREATION THERAPIST OF SENIOR SERVICES TITLE

Susan Kims referred to a meeting from 2012 where it was stated that Senior Recreation Therapist of Senior Services Mary Josefiak should not be in the white collar union. Supervisor Meegan responded the previous person that held the position was in the white collar union and Mrs. Josefiak is also part of that union. The title has been in the white collar contract for many years.

UNION CONTRACTS

Susan Kims questioned if union contracts can be put on the town's website in their entirety, including MOU's and appendices. Supervisor Meegan responded they are currently negotiating the blue and white collar contracts and they could put them online after they are settled. Town Attorney John Fenz stated the New York State Public Employee Relations Board provides contract information that can be viewed online.

BUDGET QUESTIONS

Susan Kims questioned the landfill disposal fee of \$600,000 on Page A-16 of the 2017 tentative budget. Town Attorney John Fenz explained there are two components of recycling programs - collection and processing. The collection of recyclables is contracted with Modern and the processing fee is captured under the "landfill disposal fee."

ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

BUDGET QUESTIONS (continued)

Susan Kims referred to page 6 of the Ad Valorem budget noting the 2017 budget line for band concerts is zero where it was \$5000 in 2016. She questioned who received that money in 2016. Councilman Hart responded it would have been used to pay for the Town Band to play, but he did not believe the money was expended this year since there has been no Town Band. Going forward, there will be no charge to the town for the band to play per the agreement with the Recreation Department.

Sharon Riddle questioned why the public did not have the opportunity to speak prior to adopting the budget at the November 14th meeting and why the elected officials' salaries were not listed at the meeting.

Town Attorney John Fenz explained the board could not reopen the public hearing during that meeting without first posting a 10-day notice in the paper. This delay would have caused the town to miss the required filing date for adopting the budget.

Councilman Hart responded the elected officials' salaries are part of the public document.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

Supervisor Meegan read a proclamation designating Saturday, November 26, 2016 as "Small Business Saturday."

RECREATION UPDATES

Youth Service Coordinator Lauren Masset announced there will be a day after Thanksgiving open skate at the ice rink from 12 P.M. to 1:50 P.M. Breakfast with Santa will be held Sunday, December 11th, 9 A.M. until 11 A.M. at the senior center. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased in the recreation office during regular business hours.

SENIOR CENTER UPDATES

Senior Recreation Therapist of Senior Services Mary Josefiak announced a Thanksgiving lunch will be served at the senior center tomorrow.

PARKING BAN

Chief Denz reminded residents the parking ban is in effect from 1 A.M. to 7 A.M. Warnings were given out the first week and police will now be actively enforcing the ban. Chief Denz also reminded all to be vigilant about locking their cars as thefts rise during the holiday season.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

BURCHFIELD NATURE AND ART CENTER (BNAC) REPORT

Councilman Hanley recognized the BNAC volunteers for their hard work and commented on their numerous accomplishments as outlined in their annual report.

Motion by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to accept the attached BNAC report and make it part of the record.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried
APPENDICES

DEPAUL EBENEZER SQUARE APARTMENTS

Councilman Hart stated he and Supervisor Meegan attended the dedication of the DePaul Ebenezer Square Apartments, a \$30 million dollar project that will provide 100 apartments to income eligible individuals. He recognized Assemblyman Michael Kearns for bringing the project to West Seneca and stated it has already had a positive effect on the neighborhood.

RALLY FOR WNY PSYCHIATRIC CENTER

Supervisor Meegan announced the Governor's office is putting out a request for proposals to build two floors at the Buffalo Psychiatric Center with the intent of moving the children currently at the WNY Psychiatric Center on East & West Road to the other facility. There will be a rally tomorrow at 2 P.M. at the WNY Psychiatric Center and Senator Gallivan, Assemblyman Kearns and Town Board members will be in attendance to oppose this plan and protect the interests of the children.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Councilman Hart, seconded by Councilman Hanley, to recess to executive session at 7:45 P.M. to discuss three contract matters, three real property matters and one litigation matter.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

The board members returned from executive session at 9:00 P.M.

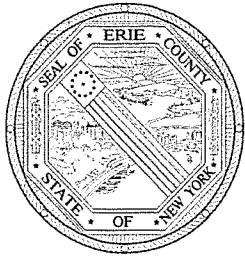
ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Meegan, seconded by Councilman Hart, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried



**ERIE COUNTY 2016-2019
INTERMUNICIPAL SNOW REMOVAL AND ICE
CONTROL AGREEMENT**

THIS INTERMUNICIPAL SNOW REMOVAL AND ICE CONTROL AGREEMENT (this "Agreement") made and entered into as of the _____ day of _____, 2016, by and between the **COUNTY OF ERIE**, a municipal corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York having its offices at 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo, New York, (hereinafter referred to as the "County") and the **TOWN OF WEST SENECA**, a municipal corporation within the County of Erie, having its offices at **1250 UNION ROAD, WEST SENECA**, New York, (hereinafter referred to as the "Municipality").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the County owns, operates, and maintains a highway system located throughout the towns and villages of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County's Department of Public Works is responsible for administering and supervising all County related highway work, including the removal of snow and control of ice on County roadways; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to contract with the Municipality for the removal of snow and control of ice on certain County roadways defined herein; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality has appropriate personnel and equipment to properly maintain County roadways for the purposes of snow removal and ice control; and

WHEREAS, on _____, 2016, the Municipality's Board approved a resolution in support of the Municipality contracting with the County for snow removal and ice control services; and

WHEREAS, on _____, 2016, the Erie County Legislature approved resolution Comm. _____ supporting the arrangement described herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants, agreements and consideration contained herein, the County and the Municipality (collectively the "Parties") agree as follows:

61. **RECITALS**: The foregoing Recitals are incorporated into the terms of this Agreement.
62. **DEFINITIONS**: Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this paragraph 2.
 - a. **Snow Season** shall be defined as beginning on September 1st and ending of April 30th of the following calendar year.

- b. **Lane Mile** shall mean a portion of any County road which is one mile long and of sufficient width to allow for the safe passage of a vehicle. Shoulders, median strips and short widened sections designed for intersection turning lanes shall not be considered in the calculation of the number of Lane Miles to be maintained under this Agreement. All County roads shall be considered to be at least two lanes wide for such purposes.
 - c. **Remove** shall mean that which is moved and re-deposited alongside the road, and shall include, if necessary, push back and shelving.
 - d. **Push Back** after storm is over, plowed snow should be plowed back as far as possible to provide snow storage in anticipation of the next storm.
 - e. **Shelving/Benching** additional snow storage can be provided by plowing high level snow banks with the wing elevated. The wing should be at least three feet off the pavement to avoid hitting guide rail.
 - f. **Extra Work** the removal of snow from areas requiring loading equipment and hauling vehicles, front end loaders, snow blowers or heavy dump trucks are usually used for this purpose.
 - g. **Municipal Executive** shall mean the Municipality's Mayor, Supervisor, Administrator, Highway Superintendent or DPW Commissioner.
65. **TERM**: The term of this Agreement shall be for a three-year period beginning on September 1, 2016 and expiring on August 31, 2019 and will include three (3) Snow Seasons. This Agreement shall be reviewed annually in accordance with paragraph 10 of this Agreement. This Agreement may be extended at the request of the County with the approval of the Municipality. The Parties agree that they will commence discussion or negotiations pertaining to the extensions or renewal of this Agreement, whether in whole or in part, beginning March 2019.
66. **SERVICES**: This Agreement shall include all activities necessary to control snow and ice on County roads, together with all necessary labor, equipment and materials. The Municipality agrees to Remove snow and to control ice and snow on the County roads, hereinafter listed on **Exhibit A**.

The Municipality will be required to maintain a sufficient level of manpower, equipment, and materials to enable it to meet the goal of providing safe and passable roadways. The Municipality shall clear such County highways of snow and ice as designated by the County, to the extent that the County may deem necessary to provide reasonable passage and movement of vehicles over such highways all in accordance with terms, rules and regulations as may be deemed by the County to be in the best interest of the public.

At all times, the County reserves the right to call out the Municipality to Remove and/or clear snow and ice and the Municipality hereby agrees to respond within a reasonable period of time. Both Parties shall designate a 24-hour contact person, with whom the County or the Municipality will contact in the event that either Party determines it is necessary to call out the other.

The Municipality will notify the County, in writing, when a higher level of snow removal is potentially required. The County will have a written response to the Municipality within twenty-four (24) hours of such notification as to whether or not the County is going to do the work themselves or have the Municipality do the higher level of snow removal. If the County District Engineer orders the work with the approval of the Commissioner of Public Works to the Municipality, then the Municipality will be compensated by the County at the following rates. Labor shall be billed at the applicable Municipal rate and equipment will be billed at the present FEMA rates for such equipment.

In the event the Municipality does not perform as required per Section 2 of this Agreement, the County and the Municipality will be required to meet, as soon as possible, within ten (10) business days to settle the dispute.

67. **LANE MILES:** The schedule of County roads and number of Lane Miles that are subject to this Agreement are attached hereto and marked as **Exhibit A: Lane Mile Confirmation**. Shoulders, median strips and short widened sections designed for intersection turning lanes shall not be considered in the calculation of the number of Lane Miles to be maintained under this Agreement. All County roads shall be considered to be at least two lanes wide for such purposes. The number of Lane Miles for which compensation shall be paid hereunder is as set forth on **Exhibit A**.

68. **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** The Municipality agrees to complete daily log reports evidencing the work performed under this Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit B: Form SI-7ECrev**. The invoices, signed by the Municipal Executive, shall be submitted with the support documentation at least forty-five (45) days in advance of payment, as listed below in paragraph 7.

69. **PAYMENT:** The County agrees to reimburse the Municipality for services each year, subject to the terms and conditions enumerated herein, in the form of two (2) payments, payable as follows:

\$3,818.99 for the 2016 – 2017 Snow Season, beginning September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017:

\$1,909.49 x number of Lane Miles in Exhibit A by December 15, 2016; and
\$1,909.50 x number of Lane Miles in Exhibit A by April 15, 2017.

\$3,933.56 for the 2017 – 2018 Snow Season, beginning September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018:

\$1,966.78 x number of Lane Miles in Exhibit A by December 15, 2017; and
\$1,966.78 x number of Lane Miles in Exhibit A by April 15, 2018.

\$4,051.57 for the 2018 – 2019 Snow Season, beginning September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019:

\$2,025.78 x number of Lane Miles in Exhibit A by December 15, 2018; and
\$2,025.79 x number of Lane Miles in Exhibit A by April 15, 2019.

Payments shall be made on invoices submitted by the Municipality to the County's Department of Public Works ("Department"). The invoices shall be signed by the Municipal Executive and shall be submitted to the Department at least forty-five (45) days in advance of payment, as listed above.

70. **INDEMNIFICATION**: To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Municipality agrees that it will, at its own expense, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its officers, employees and agents from and against any and all liability, damage, claims, demands, costs, judgments, fees, attorney's fees or loss arising directly or indirectly out of the performance or failure to perform hereunder by the Municipality or third parties under the direction or control of the Municipality; and to provide defense for and defend, at its sole expense, any and all claims, demands or causes of action directly or indirectly arising out of this Agreement and to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto. The County agrees that it shall provide timely notice to the Municipality of any claim, action of proceeding, which may be filed or commences against the County by reason of the performance of such work.
71. **INSURANCE**: As a part of its obligation to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the County, its officers, agents and employees, as set forth above, the Municipality agrees to obtain and maintain in full force and effect, for the term of this Agreement, insurance coverage, naming the County as an additional insured, as described in **Exhibit C: County of Erie Standard Insurance Certificate and Instructions, Classification G**, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

In lieu of the foregoing, the Municipality may furnish satisfactory evidence of a self-insurance plan acceptable to the Erie County Attorney and/or Risk Management.

72. **AMENDMENT/TERMINATION**: Any modifications made to the terms of this Agreement which are mutually agreed upon by the Parties, in writing, shall become effective immediately, or as otherwise agreed.

Prior to the commencement of each Snow Season, the County will annually notify the Municipality, in writing, of any proposed modification(s) to this Agreement by September 1st. It is understood and agreed by the Parties that notice of any modification to this Agreement shall be deemed to be accepted by the Municipality and made a part hereof, except that in the event that the Municipality does not concur with the modification, the Municipal Executive may submit a letter of dispute to the County within ten (10) business days after receipt of the notice, setting forth the reason for the non-concurrence.

The Municipality and the County shall attempt to resolve the matter. If a resolution is unsuccessful, either Party may choose to terminate this Agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other Party; however a request to terminate must be made no later than October 1st of each year. In the event a request to terminate is made after October 1st, said termination shall not be effective until the end of the current Snow Season, unless mutually agreed to, in writing, by the Parties.

73. **EXECUTORY**: It is understood by the parties that this Agreement shall be executory only to the extent of the monies available to the County of Erie and appropriated therefore, and no liability shall be incurred by the County beyond the monies available and appropriated for these purposes.
74. **SUCCESSORS**: This Agreement shall bind the successors, assigns and representatives of the Parties hereto.
75. **ASSIGNMENT**: This Agreement shall not be assigned without the written permission of the County.
76. **WAIVER**: Failure of any of the Parties to assert any right or declare any default hereunder shall not preclude such assertion or declaration at a later date or upon a recurrence of violation of such rights or event of default.
-

77. **GOVERNING LAW:** This Agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the internal laws of the State of New York.

78. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT:** This Agreement and its attachments constitute the entire Agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and shall supersede all previous negotiations, commitments and writings. In the event of any conflict between the terms of this Agreement and the terms of any schedule or attachment hereto, it is understood that the terms of this Agreement shall be controlling with respect to any interpretation of the meaning and intent of the Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this instrument to be executed by their duly authorized officers on the day and year first above written.

COUNTY OF ERIE

MUNICIPALITY

By: _____
Mark Poloncarz/Maria Whyte
County Executive/Deputy County Executive

By: _____
Name:
Title:

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: Electronically Signed
John C. Loffredo, P.E., Commissioner
Department Of Public Works

By: Electronically Signed
Kristen Walder
Assistant County Attorney

Document # _____-PW

FOR THE MUNICIPALITY:

State of New York}ss.
County of Erie}

On this _____ day of _____, 2016, before me, the undersigned, personally appeared _____, to me personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the entity or individual upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument by authority of said municipality.

Notary Public

Town of West Seneca

2016-2019 ERIE COUNTY SNOW REMOVAL EXHIBIT A: LANE MILE CONFIRMATION

Town of West Seneca
1250 Union Road
West Seneca, NY 14224

| County Road Number | Street Name | FROM | TO | MILES | Lane Miles |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 322 | Borden Road | Clinton Street | French Road | 0.34 | 0.68 |
| 363 | East & West Road | Orchard Park Rd (RT 240) | Leydecker Road | 3.26 | 6.52 |
| 459 | Fisher Road | Orchard Park Rd (RT 240) | Lackawanna Town Line | 1.65 | 3.30 |
| 458 | Langner Road | Fisher Road | Ridge Road | 0.70 | 1.40 |
| 364 | Leydecker Road | East & West Road | Seneca Street | 0.62 | 1.24 |
| 365 | Michael Road | Orchard Park Rd (RT 240) | Southwestern Blvd. (RT 20) | 0.80 | 1.60 |
| 534 | Mineral Springs Road | Indian Church Road | City Line | 1.82 | 3.64 |
| 366 | Reserve Road | Orchard Park Rd (RT 240) | Southwestern Blvd. (RT 20) | 1.90 | 3.80 |
| Total | | | | 11.09 | 22.18 |

UPDATE INFO BELOW, 24 HR CONTACT REQUIRED BY CONTRACT

**Erie
County
Highway
Maintenance
District 2/3/4**

VERIFIED BY:

_____ MUNICIPALITY REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

VERIFIED BY:

_____ ERIE COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE

| Position Name | Supervisor | Clerk | Engineer | Highway Superintendent | 24 HOUR CONTACT |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|--|-----------------|
| | Sheila Meegan | Jacqueline Felser | George Montiz, P.E. | Matthew English | |
| Address | See Above | See Above | See Above | 39 South Avenue West Seneca, NY 14224 | |
| Phone (Office) | 674-5600 | 558-3215 | 558-3221 | 558-3244 | |
| Phone (Home) | | | | | |
| Phone (Cell/Mobile) | | | | | |
| Pager | | | | | |
| Fax | 675-7205 | 558-2250 | | 674-0981 | |
| E-mail | | | ...@twsny.org | menglish@ | |

(Michael Road & Reserve Road) portion in Town of Orchard Park

**Erie County
Department of Public Works**



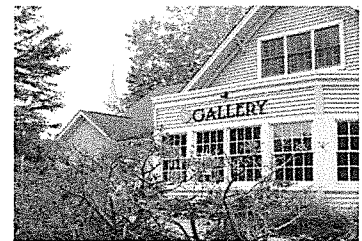
Friends of the Burchfield Nature & Art Center
2016 Annual Report
October 2015 – September 2016

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.*

The popularity of the Burchfield Nature and Art Center has continued to grow with visitors and tour groups coming from many communities in Western New York as well as other states and Canada. Visitors enjoy the parkland with its natural beauty and rich history. The gallery has gained popularity as people become more aware of the changing exhibits and variety of local talent on display. The uniqueness of the facility has led many out of town visitors to comment "I wish we had something like this where I live."

Art

Art is an active component of the BNAC. A new sign on the front of the building, clearly defines the location of the art gallery. New lighting fixtures and the expanded hanging system allow for the better display of art works. The BNAC gallery exhibits from October 2015 through September 2016 included local painters, carvers, photographers, Native American art and fiber artists.



Volunteers are gathering information, pictures, and memorabilia for a new permanent exhibit "A Tribute to Charles E Burchfield". Acquisition of materials is on-going and the exhibit will be on display for the public to enrich their knowledge of the legacy of Charles E Burchfield. A trip to the Burchfield Penney Art Center in October 2015 sponsored by Supervisor Meegan helped volunteers gain a better perspective on the man and his art.

Artist Frank O'Connor continues his work on a creative sculpture in the park. Visitors look forward to seeing him incorporate nature and art. The West Seneca Art Society holds monthly meetings and demonstrations in the classroom and sponsors two gallery exhibits a year. Artistic creativity is encouraged through BNAC sponsored children's activities like Wonderful Wednesdays on the patio in the summer and Wonder Camps during school breaks. Classes and presentations on woodcarving, floral design, basket making, photography and art techniques were popular.



Events

The BNAC invites the public to enjoy a variety of events. Simple pleasures of the season were enjoyed at The Holiday Open House. Earth Day brought many groups of people into the Park for Spring Clean-Up. An overflow crowd gathered for the Annual Seneca Nation Treaty Commemoration ceremony. The community looks forward to the family friendly Sunday in the Park and Enchanted Forest events. Tuesday evening Summer Concert were well attended. Concert sponsorship and grants enabled the addition of one more Tuesday evening performance and a Sunday afternoon performance. The Americana Music Festival was this year's new event. Local musicians contributed their talents including the first public appearance of the NEW West Seneca Town Band.

Community

Community outreach and participation has evolved. The website (Burchfieldnac.org) and Facebook page provide more information that draws people to the facility. The Facebook page now has over 1600 followers. Local TV stations and newspapers continue to cover events and have featured the parklands. The Buffalo Spree named the Burchfield Nature and Art Center as one of the best family-friendly hiking areas. Our Website is now followed by prominent websites such as IloveNY.com

At the BNAC, interest in art, history, and nature is fostered by the many groups that share the facility: Burchfield Woodcarvers, the South Towns and Amana Garden Clubs, the West Seneca Art Society, the Crosstown Quilters, the Common Threads yarn spinners and the West Seneca Environmental Commission. The

West Seneca Woman's Club, West Seneca Rotary, West Seneca Chamber of Commerce, scout troops, Transit Road Day Habilitation program, school students and many local businesses contribute to the success of our efforts. The groups share their knowledge, talent and energy.

Parklands

The nature trails and gardens provide never-ending opportunities and challenges. Thanks to Eagle Scout projects, we were able to make improvements in the pergola area including a brick paver inlay. Another scout project leveled all the concrete benches. After years of deterioration and vandalism, the gazebo was repaired by the scouts. They also landscaped the Union Road side of the Metz house, giving this historic home the respect it deserves.

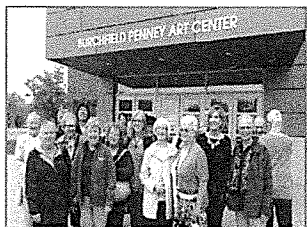
Volunteers and community service workers made garden improvements as we move slowly toward gardens that are less labor intensive and more beautiful. School groups joined the effort by mulching and clearing gardens in the early spring. Earth Day, in cooperation with the Riverkeepers, cleaned the park and cleared limbs. The Mormon Elders played a vital role in helping to control the wild grapevines that can strangle trees. Maintaining healthy woodlands is vital to support the new tree growth that will eventually replace the dying ash trees. The volunteers purchased tree seedlings that were planted and nurtured by town summer workers.



Pokemon Go brought new people to the park dramatically increasing the litter. Town employees and volunteers spent hours cleaning up. We were grateful when our regular park visitors stepped up and led by example – picking up litter as they enjoyed their daily walk. This is truly a community park.

Education

Brochures and leaflets relevant to Charles Burchfield, the history of Gardenville, park trees, birds in the park, and the Burchfield placards in the park have been updated and are now available to visitors. Many of the brochures, the park map, the facility brochure and the area history are also available on the BNAC website. School children, garden clubs and adult groups have enjoyed tours of the facility provided by volunteers. Having volunteers available in the gallery gives visitors a resource for gaining information.



Volunteers

The events, classes, and grounds improvements that make the BNAC a popular destination are the result of the efforts and dedication of the BNAC volunteers. This year the volunteers spent over 5,878 hours planning, organizing, and implementing activities that allow people to enjoy the wonders of art and nature. By engaging people from all ages, cultures and socio-economic backgrounds, we continue to meet the mission of our organization.

Thanks

The Friends of the BNAC appreciate the support and encouragement received from Town of West Seneca. Town officials have provided guidance in managing this thriving facility. The Highway Department and Buildings and Grounds staff have accommodated many of our suggested changes and improvements.

We would also like to thank the BNAC members for their on-going support. Grants from the Arts Services Initiative of WNY and the New York State Council on the Arts and the Music Performance Trust Fund helped to fund the concert series as did donations from: WNY Federal Credit Union, West Seneca Woman's Club, Dolores Mendolia, West Seneca Rotary, Gene Hart and DMD Builders. Thanks also to the Guitar Factory for their support for the Americana Music Festival.

