

ID 20917

August 10, 2011

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kathleen O'Connor, Commissioner
Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation

RE: Contract with Nunataks, Ltd. d/b/a The Greenburgh Nature Center for County-wide Nature and Watershed Education Programs during the period January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011 in the amount of \$50,000.00

The Greenburgh Nature Center has been allocated Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars in the Westchester County Budget for 2011 toward family nature programs, land use/watershed education programs, and environmental education programs that serve the people of Westchester County. These funds will provide partial funding of personnel costs relating to these programs. The Greenburgh Nature Center is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization chartered in the State of New York.

The Greenburgh Nature Center will use Fifteen Thousand Three Hundred Fifty (\$15,350) Dollars of County funds to provide support for its current level of watershed education programs in districts throughout Westchester County. These include Ardsley, White Plains, Yonkers, Mt. Vernon, Greenburgh Central 7, Edgemont, Scarsdale, and Mamaroneck. The Greenburgh Nature Center has been actively developing watershed education programs for County-wide use since 1995.

Each project involves working with students in elementary or middle school grades (ages 7-14). The number of participants ranges from 18-25 students to an entire grade of 130-150 students.

Fifteen Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty (\$15,850) Dollars of these County funds will be used toward providing weekend family programs to people of all ages and backgrounds in Westchester County. These programs vary from low-key nature walks to very highly structured fairs, Halloween events, egg hunts and specialized programs on such topics as birds of prey, turtles and pond life.

The Center strives to develop programs that are entertaining as well as educational, and to make the programs interesting to people of varying educational and socio-economic backgrounds. In order to make the programs affordable, fees are kept at a minimum and some are offered at no charge to the public.

Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred (\$18,800) Dollars of these County funds will be used toward providing development and presentation of a series of programs on the key environmental issues facing Westchester residents in the coming years. The focus audience for these programs would be high school students and adults, and would involve students in the planning and coordination of the program.

The programs require extensive planning, staff coordination, public relations, supervision, and support operations including maintenance and office support. The programs have been developed to complement those being offered by the County's Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation. Coordination with staff at the various County nature centers insures this.

The Greenburgh Nature Center will be required to submit a report to the County at the end of the year detailing the many services that will be provided through this \$50,000 in funding.

The public purpose and objective of this agreement is to offer family nature programs, land use/watershed education programs and education programs on key environmental issues to residents of Westchester County. The Parks Department will track and monitor the terms and conditions of the agreement through written reports.

This contract is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a) (ix) therein.

I recommend approval of the attached proposed Resolution.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/15/21 - JOMMY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is authorized to enter into an agreement with Nunataks, Ltd. d/b/a The Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Road, Scarsdale, NY 10583, in the amount of Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars, for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 to support the nature and watershed education programs of The Greenburgh Nature Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Agreement is subject to County appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Agreement is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget (the "State Budget") proposed and adopted during the term of this Agreement. The County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed State Budget and/or the adoption of a State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or adoption(s), to conduct an analysis of the impacts of any such State Budget on County finances. After such analysis, the County shall retain the right to either terminate this Agreement or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby empowered to execute any and all instruments and take such other actions as may reasonably be necessary to effectuate the purposes thereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Agreement #

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase or Unit	Object/Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
165	42	1100	4380		\$50,000

Budget Funding Year(s) 2011 Start Date 1/1/11 End Date 12/31/11
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars x

State Aid _____

\$ 50,000 Federal Aid _____

(must match resolution) Other _____

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/15/2011 - JOSE MARY WEIRA, SECRETARY