

## ROCHESTER RIVERWALK COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 13, 2016

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

31 WAKEFIELD STREET, ROCHESTER, NH

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Stacey Marchionni – Chair; Donna Bogan – Secretary; Corey MacKoul; Sandy Keans; Molly Meulenbroek; Ray Felts; Andrea Lemire; Jenn Marsh; Owen Friend-Gray

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Dave Walker – Vice Chair; Michelle Mears; Peter Bruckner

### OTHERS PRESENT

Rose-Marie Rogers; Trustees of the Trust Fund -Tracy Wahlbridge and Robert Palis; Deputy Mayor Ray Varney; Community Development Coordinator Julian Long; Strafford Regional Planning members Alexa Gozdoff and Colin Lentz

- A. CALL TO ORDER – Chairwoman Stacey Marchionni called the meeting to order at 5:02pm. Attendance was taken.
- B. APPROVAL – A motion was made by Donna Bogan, second by Andrea Lemire to approve the minutes of November 15, 2016 meeting.
- C. HANSON PINES – Stacey brought the Trustees up to date on Hanson Pines' part of the Riverwalk. Trust document dated 1915 was discussed (copy attached). Trustees also had a vision for the Pines to include a multi-mile walking track and a canoe launch. A forester was hired to identify invasive species that could be removed. Rob believes our plans will fit within the trust's guidelines. Pine trees and a percentage of needles must remain as part of the natural habitat. Signage is permitted.  
The Environmental group from Spaulding High School will be contacted as potential volunteers to help clean up the trails.  
Ray will contact a Scout looking for an Eagle Project to see if he would be interested in fundraising a Riverwalk project.  
The committee should reach out to the United Way, Liberty Mutual, Timberland, to see if they are interested in organizing a Day of Caring.  
There are some funds available through the Trust. Rob was not sure of amount, plus they would need to vote on any spending and as of now they do not have enough members.  
Rose Marie addressed her concerns about the Aquifer under the river that runs from Farmington to where Little River meets Isinglass and how it is a viable water source and is partly recharged by wetlands. She also advised us that the gravel pit behind the river on Chestnut Hill Road was to be made into a park. Owen will ask Mike about the gravel pit promise.

Fishing Pier – Rose Marie talked about Fish and Game projects that were similar and they should be contacted to see if a Rochester project is possible. Rose Marie, Sandy and Corey will set up a meeting with Fish and Game.

Colin inquired the extent of mapping and lack of walk overlay. He also suggested use of rain gardens, water protection plans and installing a narrative tour of the Riverwalk.

- D. ABUTTER PETITION – A petition was read and acknowledged from Pink Street residents that was sent to City Council.

\*Signage/Banners and Logos – tabled until January meeting.

- E. FUNDING SOURCES – Julian researched potential funding sources and presented us with a handout. Most sources' deadlines have past for this year. He also advised of CDBG funds that will be available. We possibly need private fundraising to match grant funds. For tax deductible donations the committee should consider a fiscal sponsor/agent.

Jenn will contact person who worked on Rail Trails project.

Alexa suggested contacting Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regarding the Rail Trails program. She also suggested we contact Volunteer NH to line up volunteers for spring City and River clean up.

Andrea will contact Laurie Chase for additional info on clean up.

Stacey would like to start pricing and a budget for initial projects.

- F. 2017 SCHEDULE – It was agreed that through April the committee will meet twice a month – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays from 5:00 – 6:30. Depending on our progress, we will decide if we will only meet once a month.

A motion to adjourn was made by Donna Bogan, second by Andrea Lemire. Meeting adjourned at 6:26pm.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 5:00pm – City Council Chambers, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, NH

Respectfully submitted by Donna Bogan