

ROCHESTER RIVERWALK COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 28, 2020

VIRTUAL MEETING: Remote phone conference session with public access

ROCHESTER, NH 03967

MEMBERS PRESENT –

Jon Batson, Peter Bruckner, Susan Mills, Stacey Purslow, Esther Turner, David Walker

MEMBERS ABSENT –Ray Felts

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE – Jennifer Marsh (City Staff Contact)

A. CALL TO ORDER – David called the meeting to order at 6:04.

B. APPROVAL –

a. Motion to accept the minutes of July 23, 2020, by Peter, second by Jon, and approved by roll call.

Member	Vote	Member	Vote	Member	Vote
Jon Batson	Yea	Susan Mills	Yea	Esther Turner	Yea
Peter Bruckner	Yea	Stacey Purslow	Yea	David Walker	Yea
Ray Felts	Not present				

C. DISCUSSION – Chair position and membership

David assumed responsibility to chair the committee until the new chairperson is named.

Jenn will share on facebook that the Riverwalk Committee is looking for new members. **Jenn** and **Stacey** will obtain access to the Riverwalk facebook page from Stacey Marchionni. Current membership will ask around to find people interested in joining the committee.

D. DISCUSSION – Camera and additional signage of kayak launch

Jenn mentioned she has talked with some staff and community members that mentioned cameras would be a good idea to add near the kayak launch. Jenn followed up with Police and the City Manager to see if the riverwalk committee could add a camera and they agreed to that.

Recreation staff mentioned to Jenn that the committee should think about adding a few signs at the end of Hillsdale. One that notes the launch area is for loading and unloading only and also one on the cleared section off to the right that states parking is allowed at this spot only.

Jenn noted both of these projects would cost money and would need approval to spend riverwalk funds. Jenn stated she would work with the recreation department and public works on these two items and bring it back to committee with final recommendations. At that point the committee can request City Council to allocate these funds.

E. DISCUSSION – Master plan overview

Jenn provided a run-through of the 2018 revision of the Riverwalk Master Plan. During this review, several ideas were discussed: a pocket park behind the Gaffney, take-out location on the Cocheco at Club Victoire property, potential of Fownes Mill development as a walk beside the river, potential along Water Street, overlook at dam by Duval Park, underlighting of the arched bridge, research of plants growing along riverbank to replace less desirable (invasive) with plants that are more beneficial.

Committee members will continue their review of the master plan in order to determine the activity for the coming year.

Jon recommended that the next meeting be a walking session from Hanson Pines to downtown. This was accepted by the committee.

F. DISCUSSION – Fundraising

Jenn will request a list of grant opportunities from Julian Long. The committee may need to get engineering cost estimates in advance of any application for a grant. Planning fundraising will be a focus this winter, perhaps establishing a sub-committee for fundraising.

ADJOURN –

Motion to adjourn by Jon, second by Suzie, and approved by roll call.

Member	Vote	Member	Vote	Member	Vote
Jon Batson	Yea	Susan Mills	Yea	Esther Turner	Yea
Peter Bruckner	Yea	Stacey Purslow	Yea	David Walker	Yea
Ray Felts	Not present				

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Next meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 24**, from 5:00-6:30 pm, weather-permitting, convening at Hanson Pines and walking downtown and back.

—Respectfully submitted by Esther Turner