

ROCHESTER RIVERWALK COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 17, 2022

City Hall Annex, Cocheco Room and remote attendance

ROCHESTER, NH 03967

MEMBERS PRESENT – Jon Batson (remote), Peter Bruckner, Kerrie Landry, Barbara Murphy (remote), Stacey Purslow, Esther Turner, David Walker.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE – Brian Hettrick of Sunshine Initiative, Jennifer Marsh of Rochester Economic Development, Jack Potvin (remote) of Project Happy, Ryan Trepanier of Rochester Recreation Department.

ABSENT - Maggie McConaghy, Trish Prescott.

A. CALL TO ORDER — David called the meeting to order at 6:01.

B. APPROVAL —

Motion to accept the minutes of regular meeting September 22, 2022, was made by Jon, seconded by Kerrie, and approved by all.

C. DISCUSSION — Project Happy

**Jack Potvin** presented how Project Happy is engaging youth in the community through volunteerism. Twenty-five percent of American teens feel disconnected. Project Happy is a platform designed to eliminate the barriers to youth involvement. Ninety-four percent of youth participants report mood lift as a result of their engagement with Project Happy. Project Happy benefits schools and non-profits by creating a pool of passionate volunteers. No charge.

**Jenn** will email Riverwalk's tax status to Jack.

D. DISCUSSION — Spring cleanup of Hanson Pines

**Ryan Trepanier** recommended an upgrade of existing benches on the main loop within Dominicus Hanson Park next spring. Jenn has a full inventory of these benches with their condition. Ryan provided a copy of the Hanson Pines Forestry Management Plan to Jenn Marsh. **Jenn** will see that a materials list is created for hardware and wood planks. It was acknowledged that the materials need to be sourced well in advance. **Jon** is investigating the sourcing of planking. **Ryan** will schedule the spring review—a walk and talk with the forester Charlie Morano, the Recreation Department, Trustees, and Riverwalk. This will be done in advance of the spring cleanup and the bench upgrade.

E. DISCUSSION — Logo next steps

*[Tabled until next meeting]*

F. DISCUSSION — Grant updates

**Brian Hettrick** reported an encouraging meeting with Rick Peck of New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. Riverwalk, its story, blends well into their work. Riverwalk must work on putting our story together, including the arts community.

**Brian** will call another meeting of “Flow It Along,” the grants subcommittee, in advance of the next monthly meeting of Riverwalk.

G. DISCUSSION — Other

Waypoint. A subcommittee of Riverwalk to look into collaboration with Waypoint will include Brian and Barb. Waypoint is planning a March sleep-out. Riverwalk would like to meet at Waypoint's facility for the December meeting (12/22 at 6:00).

H. Adjourn — Motion to adjourn was made at 6:53 by Kerrie, seconded by Peter, accepted unanimously.

Next meeting to be held on Thursday, December 22, 2022, 6:00pm.

—Respectfully submitted by Esther Turner