

ROCHESTER RIVERWALK COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 27, 2019

CITY HALL ANNEX, COCHECO ROOM
33 WAKEFIELD STREET, ROCHESTER, NH

MEMBERS PRESENT –

Jon Batson, Peter Bruckner, Ray Felts, Andrea Lemire, Stacey Marchionni, Esther Turner

MEMBERS ABSENT – Donna Bogan, Sandy Keans, Susan Mills, David Walker

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE – Jenn Marsh

A. CALL TO ORDER – Stacey called the meeting to order at 6:45.

B. APPROVAL –

a. Motion to accept the minutes of May 23, 2019, by Jon, second by Andrea, and approved unanimously.

C. DISCUSSION – Walking tour of the interval

a. Jenn provided a map of the DPW project with its connection to the interval. Members walked along the river behind William Allen School to understand how the Riverwalk might be extended in the years ahead. The woods and the river lie in a plain below the higher ground of the school and residential neighborhoods, a landscape that is attractive to campers.



D. DISCUSSION – Funding

a. The Riverwalk account balance is \$2,447, \$750 short of the amount needed to proceed with the archeological study required before the State will sign the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant authorization for the boardwalk in Dominicus Hanson Park.

b. Fundraising will continue with a Riverwalk dinner in August and another in September.

c. **Esther** will seek a restaurant to provide the dinner for the summer Riverwalk event. The plan is for a dinner similar to the past two summer fundraisers, held downtown along the Cocheco River between the two dams, early August, at 6:00 on a weekday evening, perhaps Wednesday again, for up to 75 diners.

E. DISCUSSION – Projects

a. The kayak launch has been reviewed by New Hampshire Fish and Game. **Jenn** will check on the status of the notification of abutters. It must be sent out for bid.

- b. The boardwalk access to the trails in the northern portion of Dominicus Hanson Park is stalled due to lack of funds for the archeological study required for the RTP grant approval. **Stacey** will check with Peter Nourse, director of public works, on materials that may be available.

F. DISCUSSION – Planning

- a. Treatment of knotweed along Water Street is underway and expected to require a couple more years before it is eradicated.
- b. Design work may proceed for the installation of an amphitheater on the Water Street property so that the project will be ready for implementation once the site is ready.
- c. Jenn consulted with Chris Bowlen, director of parks and recreation, regarding outdoor classrooms for Dominicus Hanson Park. He recommended working with the Trustees of the Trust Fund. **Esther** will contact Rob Pallas, chairperson of the trustees, to firm up the design and implementation plan for the outdoor classroom. **Ray** can provide suitable natural seating, such as logs, stumps, or tree “cookies.”

G. DISCUSSION –Other

- a. There has been repeated willful littering at the Hillsdale launch which volunteers clean up. It was recommended that the city post a notice regarding littering. A formal request for signage needs to be made to the public works committee.
- b. **Jon** has been appointed to the Cocheco Local Advisory Committee.

ADJOURN –

Motion to adjourn by Peter, second by Ray, and approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Next meeting will be held on **Thursday, July 25**, from 6:00-7:30 pm –
City Hall Annex, Cocheco Room, 33 Wakefield St., Rochester, NH

Respectfully submitted by Esther Turner