

Newmarket Ad hoc Riverfront Advisory Committee

March 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order 4:03 PM

Attending: Samuel Kenney, Joe Lamattina, Dale Pike

Excused: Michael Hoffman, Ingrid Ahlberg

Guest(s): Bart McDonough (Town Planner)

Public Comment opened at 4:03 pm

No members of the public commented.

Public Comment closed at 4:03 pm

Meeting minutes from 2023-02-13 were approved with a minor edit change. Motion Sam Kenney, Second Joe Lamattina. All were in favor as amended.

Sam gave an update on testing done on the Lamprey River Watershed by UNH that was funded by Lamprey River Advisory Committee. Results were reviewed last week with the Conservation Commission. The study tested water along various Lamprey River points from Raymond, Epping and Lee as well as Newmarket. Results showed bacterial content likely a result of storm water runoff. Fecal bacteria was detected at the Moonlight Brook outflow area during multiple tests. In some cases the results were significant. UNH will do additional testing in 2023, a goal for the next studies will be to determine where the Moonlight Brook bacteria is coming from and testing will be done more in sync with storm events.

Bart gave an update on the Coastal Resilience Grant status. Bart has received the grant requirements and what is and what is not covered in the grant. Grant can be applied to a "Preliminary Design". It's a 4 to 1 grant match. Bart also gave an update on other potential grant options. Bart stated it will be helpful if we have the charrette for the riverfront area completed to show we have community buy in. Time frames look good, the committee decides in the Oct-Dec 2023 time frame, awarded projects have to be completed by June 2025.

Dale suggested it would be helpful if we listed the grant opportunities and cross referenced them to the projects we want to accomplish.

There was discussion about what the charrette should cover. Do we want to include the larger concepts such as a bridge to Heron Point, we probably do not want to get into details such as the width of a kayak launch. Bart has a document we can use as a template to show what the community wants. Bart will work with Aimee.

There was discussion about who is responsible for Schanda Park and the River Front Walk area. Is it the Conservation Commission, Town Council, Public Works. Dale stated we need to have a list of who needs to be consulted such as Fish and Game.

Sam asked if there will be an opportunity to meet with the group performing the charrette to understand what the charrette will include. Bart stated that can be done.

Betsy Wolfe from Rivermoor Landing stated that they would like to have some input for any connections to Heron Point and there are issues with the lack of maintenance of the current river walk area.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:34 pm

Next Meeting – April 10, 4PM Town Hall Council Room