



Newmarket Ad hoc Riverfront Advisory Committee

February 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order 4:00 PM

Attending: Samuel Kenney, Joe Lamattina, Ingrid Ahlberg, Dale Pike, Betsy Wolfe

Guest(s): Lyndsay Butler, Bart McDonough

Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm

Public Comment opened at 4:01 pm

No members of the public present.

Public Comment closed at 4:01 pm

Meeting minutes from 2023-01-08

Motion to approve as amended – Ingrid

Second - Betsy

All voted in favor.

Sam gave an update on the Open Space Survey for The Master Plan, 406 people completed the survey. Sam highlighted a few of the survey results of interest.

Frequency of local park and conservation area usage:

18% - Frequently/Daily

40% - Weekly

20% - Monthly

20% - A few times a year.

Usage of Heron Point and Riverfront (Downtown) (This question was posed seasonally)

Summertime responses:

20% - Daily

42% - Weekly

Still used in winter.

How do you get to Down Town (people could select multiple options) :

63% - Walk

58% - Car

What should Riverfront provide to community (multiple choices allowed)

81% - Opportunity to observe natural environment

70% - Local history and culture

70% - Community Pride

What conservation properties are you aware of

88% - Heron Point

46% - Wiging Farm

Betsy suggested if we do future surveys of this nature we should ask "Where Do You Live". "Age Group".

There was discussion about signage and opportunities for education. Other groups such as Newmarket 300th Anniversary are looking at offering educational materials, there is an opportunity to coordinate.

There is a community workshop related to the Master Planning scheduled for Saturday March 16th, 8:30am, place TBD, most likely Junior/Senior High School. The committee and public are urged to attend. Workshop will focus on Vision, Open Space and Housing. You should register, Info on town web site. Core hours will be 10-12.

For the week of April 8th thru 12th groups can follow-up on the planning, more info to come.

There was discussion about Schanda Park signage and when they would be available. Dale passed out samples of suggested content that he had supplied Bart. New signage should specifically mention warning, water quality issues, bio hazards. There was discussion signage should mention ordinances and fines for feeding wild animals.

There was discussion about rising water levels and potential impact on the riverfront park area. Dale asked, if we move the living shoreline further down towards the water treatment plant do we need to take into account rising water if we want the living shoreline to live into the next 30 years or so.

Sam submitted the annual committee report to the town.

Lyndsay to follow up with getting space for maintaining committee documents on town Servers.

For a future meeting we need to follow up on “Property Ownership”.

Next Meeting March 11, 2024. 4PM

Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm