

Machias Revitalization Committee Minutes  
9/9/16 @ 7 a.m.  
Bluebird Ranch Restaurant

Attendance: Angela Fochesato, Joshua Rolfe, Christina Therrian, Dan Gardner, Sandi Malagara, Jim Whalen, Rich Bard, Sharon Mack.

Angela announced that the MDOT traffic/speed sign has arrived and she has been trained to operate it. Josh suggested mounting it on a trailer so it can be used in various locations. Christina said the Machias Public Works Department will be caretakers. Angela said that if the program is funded, Machias could get a second sign.

Angela said she is still waiting to hear on the Incredible Edible Grant regarding funding. She is working with students, Huntley's, Hanscom's, Bar Harbor Foods on site work, gleaning and planting next year.

Rich said he has created language for the River Walk easement and will focus on this project this fall.

The group discussed a Walking History phone app. Sharon will get the script that has already been created from County Manager Betsy Fitzgerald and Christina will provide a list of historical sites. Chris Sprague will be contacted to be involved.

Sandi reported for the Green Team that the Project Canopy Grant may not be funded this year. The Team will now focus on planting daffodils in the triangle with a \$75 gift from the St. Croix Garden Club. She will check with however is currently in charge of the MMHS greenhouse about starting seedlings for next spring's plantings. Tim and Eric are looking at appropriate places for tree plantings. The next Green Team meeting is 1 p.m. Wednesday October 12 at Expressions.

Christina reported that the Bad Little Falls sign has not be completed but that a temporary sign may be installed.

Sandi reported that the committee's Pop Up Project - Expressions - is going very well with lots of foot traffic and sales. She is filling up at workshops. Angela, working with Sandi, will reach out to Fosters for a key to The Office to place student artwork, etc. in the windows. Angela said Fosters will not be doing any structural work in that block this year.

Dan Gardner discussed banners. It was agreed that the 12 banners in the downtown area could represent a specific event or group and larger, additional banners could be added on the shoulders of the downtown to town borders. Sharon said UMM will pay for 12 banners to say "Home of the University of Maine at Machias." Banners for in-between seasons could highlight the waterfall or historic sites. It was suggested to get the Beehive Collective involved with the historic banners.

Christina reported that the Traffic Committee must submit their recommendations to MDOT by December. At a recent meeting they discussed three of the four top priorities: Tom's Mini Mart corner, Court Street hill and the intersection of Water and Colonial Ways. She said there is no MDOT \$ for sidewalks so improvements may be a local project, completed in sections of poured concrete with a pebble texture top. Elm Street traffic solutions will be discussed at the Committee's next meeting, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27 at the town office.

There was a brief discussion of incorporating public art, i.e. on the sidewalks, during any revitalization.

A community meeting to discuss continuance of the Machias Christmas Celebration was set for 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, at Station 1898. There was a lengthy discussion about the lack of volunteers for most community events.

The next MRC meeting will be at 7 a.m. Friday, Oct. 7, at  
Bluebird Ranch Restaurant's conference room.  
Respectfully submitted, Sharon Mack, secretary