

Machias Revitalization Committee

January 12, 2018

7AM – Bluebird Ranch Restaurant

Present: Angela Fochesato, Gail Peters, Sandi Malagara, Christina Therrien, Marsha, Bill Kitchens, Jack Jackson, David Dowley, Dan Gardner,

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Minutes: There were no changes to the minutes. Minutes were approved.

Grants:

Outside Fitness

Decisions on the grant will be made around the middle of February. Grant to support the tennis courts, drainage and playground.

Committee Reports:

River Walk

Angela Fochesato and Lindsay McMahon walked the West Side Trail. Lindsay has folks who are willing to help with the project. Fochesato said folks with Arise have volunteered to build the steps going up to the O'Brien Cemetery. Work is underway to begin marking the trails. The park & cemetery will be on the walking tour. The incredible edible gardens will be tied in as well. Signage was delayed, but should be completed the week of January 15, 2018.

History Tours

Close to being complete. There are still a few more to finish up and a few need a little bit of editing to correct dates, information, etc. These will be recorded with the correct information. Middle River Park has some historic parts, like a berm, that might want to be considered for inclusion into the walking history tours.

Dog Park

The idea of locating the dog park at Middle River Park was mentioned. The Downeast Coastal Conservancy had backed off their idea of having the dog park located there. There is interest from the public in having a dog park, but there currently is no budget for the dog park. Budget is needed for installation of a fence, to maintain/make repairs as needed, etc. Christina Therrien said unfortunately the Town doesn't have the staffing levels to maintain a dog park.

Banners & Decorations

Dan Gardner apologized for the banners project being placed on the back burners for so long, but is committed to getting back to work on them. Gardner has been in contact with the Beehive Design Collective and they are onboard with assisting with the project. The group discussed how the downtown's theme, the proposed murals and the banners should all tie in with one another with a historical theme.

Green Space/Canopy

The committee met with the Sunrise County Economic Council (SCEC) and the SCEC has plans to plant some trees around their new office building on Ames Way. A few other locations around town are also interested in planting some trees on their property as well.

Airport

Christina Therrien reports work on the building is moving along and work to the road is scheduled for this spring. There is a town meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 6PM at the Telecommunication Building on Stackpole Road where a discussion & vote will be had on a \$250,000 loan to help secure federal and state funds for the airport. Therrien said that the focus for right now is to work on and maintain what they have, but future plans would seek to expand the runway.

The next meeting will be held on February 9, 2018 at 7AM at the Bluebird Ranch Restaurant.