

MACHIAS REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE  
MARCH 9, 2018 @ 7AM  
AT BLUEBIRD RESTAURANT

**Present:** Angela Fochesato, Christina Therrien, Joshua Rolfe, Lynette Smith, Jon Southern, Bob Berta, Jim Jackson, David Dowley, Sandi Malagara, Bill Kitchen

**Public comments:** The following comments are made by Bob Berta

1. Recognizing that Lyndsi McMann, the swim coach and swim team at UMM will be going to Bowdoin College.
2. The Revitalization Committee was informed about Christina Therrien running for State Senator – there is lots of call January 1<sup>st</sup> to March.
3. Bob Berta gave a letter to the committee requesting information – see attached.
4. The committee stated it has no money so there is no treasurer's report.
5. This committee only has a couple sub committees-Green space and Banner Committee. The others have nothing to do with the Downtown committee. Christina will respond.

The bikes have not been purchased yet so there is no invoice. This is a grant program through Healthy Acadia

Requests for documents from Healthy Acadia should be sent to that agency directly and not made at the downtown committee meeting

**Minutes Approved – February 9, 2018** Motioned by Joshua Rolfe, seconded by Sandi Malagara

Introductions were done.

**Riverwalk:** Lynda has taken that on and she will be working with Arise

**Incredible Edibles:** Angela Fochesato is coordinating history tour – 1<sup>st</sup> script is done. Ron Mosley to do second script. Betsy is following up with Ron. Jim Jackson inquired if additional information could be added on the history of

Machias. Angela advised that any information to be added should be sent to Betsy. Things to be added to go to Betsy.

**Bike Program:** Angela Fochesato will be down to order new bikes from Walmart. Gentlemen in Ellsworth has bike refurbishment. Angela stated thank you.

**Banners:** Dan out of town but the banner design is done. The committee is hoping to attend a meeting in the future to provide additional information. A

**Signs:** Signs for Bad Little Falls – Angela stated the town should receive the new signs today or Monday.

**Green Space Canopy:** Waiting for warm weather to continue with planting. The committee will need to address beaver problem on Water Street and protect any replacement trees. Sandy Malagara will contact the nursery and inquire about trees that beavers may not like.

**Airport:** New terminal building is almost complete but the committee has begun using it, the remaining items are small touch up. Hanscoms should be attempting to move old building in the next few weeks. Public works will remove remaining trees obstructions on the surround properties. The trees on the conservation site will be need to be removed in early spring or the beginning of summer. There are only two (2) trees known to be left to cut on the conservation land that are in the approach area, town working with conservation group to get this done.. When weather is better Hanscoms will resume work on the access road. Runway rehabilitation and lighting project is expected to begin the week before the Blueberry Festival therefore the airport open house will be moved to coincide with the Sea and Sky Festival. The date will be Saturday, July 21, 2018.

### **Traffic Safety:**

**1. Steel Hill:** The Maine Department of Transportation did not approve the application for the Steel Hill Project.

**2. Curb Cut Study –** The Town is not studying any curb cut projects at this time.

MDOT will be having a meeting regarding the Dyke project on March 13<sup>th</sup> – 6pm UMM PAC.

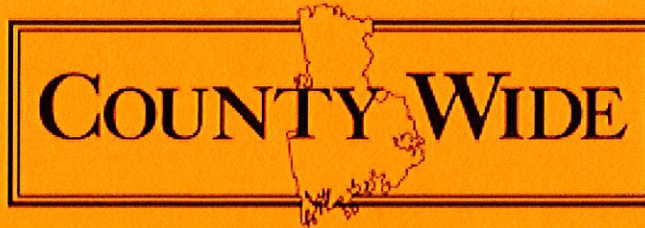
**Land & Water Conservation:** – The Town was not approved for this grant due to the tremendous response of survey participants. The Land and Water Conservation director, Doug Beck, stated the review committee felt more time should be spent in evaluating survey suggestions on alternate developments at the site.

**Waterfront Resilience Project**– Judy East will soon be scheduling meetings to solicit thoughts ideas, and suggestions from the public on this project. Christina Therrien, Town Manager, will provide additional information on the meeting dates as is becomes available.

Christina spoke with Ann Ball from Maine Development Foundation about attending our April meeting to discuss community visioning this discussion can include but will be not be limited to downtown parking, signage, addition of green space, building façade, parking options, lighting, etc. The MDF also has available CD/Video of a program available to members on window dressings, it may be beneficial for this committee to purchase copies and make them available to our community members.

Motion to adjourn by Joshua Rolfe and seconded by Sandi Malagara at 8:07 a.m.





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March 9, 2018

**To: Angela Fochesato/Warren Gay**  
Machias Downtown Revitalization Committee  
Machias Town Office/Healthy Acadia  
Machias, Maine 04654

Dear Ms. Fochesato & Mr. Gay:

Thank you for your continued work.

1) Please provide a list of which subcommittees have worked since January 1, 2018 and March 9, 2018. Please provide the dates when this subcommittees met, who was present, how the media was contacted and where the paperwork from these meeting reside. Committees include but are not limited to:

- A) Riverwalk
- B) Westside Trails
- C) Incredible Edible Gardens
- D) Cleaning of the Trail
- E) Rich Bard's legal committee for easements
- F) Bike lending project
- G) Greenspace-Canopy Committee
- F) Sandi Malagara's Grant Committee
- G) Airport Committee
- H) Traffic Safety Committee

2) Please provide the identity of the group that Ms. Fochesato claims "chose" Machias for a center for seniors. Please provide the names and address of the organization. Please provide what town monies do they expect the Town of Machias and its taxpayers to pay for the selection?

3) Oddly there is never a treasurer's report in these minutes. What funds have been expended by this group since July 1, 2017?

4) Invoice for the bikes purchased through Walmart online and where did this money come from?

5) Where are the hard copies of documents of this committee located? Since public business is being done on the servers of Healthy Acadia, please provide how access to those documents and emails will be provided.

The above request is made under Maine's Freedom of Access Act (FOAA). Thanking you in advance for your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Berta