

COMMUNITY GREENWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WATEFORD
WATERFORD TWP PUBLIC LIBRARY – STUDY ROOM
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2025 @ 6PM

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Roman Wasylkevych, Jacquelynn Brown, Robert Swartz, Jim Powers

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Marie Hauswirth

OTHERS PRESENT

Steven Klein

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Wasylkevych called the meeting to order at 6:07PM

Roll call to confirm who was present

1. Approve Agenda

1.1 Agenda for January 22, 2025

Moved by Swartz

Seconded by Powers

RESOLVED to approve the January 22, 2025 agenda, as printed

Motion carried unanimously

2. Approve Minutes

2.1 Minutes for November 21, 2024

Moved by Powers

Seconded by Swartz

RESOLVED to approve the November 21, 2024 minutes, as printed

Motion carried unanimously

3. Website Updates, and page update ownership assignments

3.1 **Contact Us page:** Wasylkevych reports no further input from Contact Us page at this time.

3.2 Riverwalk Video link was updated earlier this week to remove the old one and replace it with [Video - Riverwalk with 2025 Expansion](#). The link for the video still is the “drop box” link provided by the Media Network of Waterford. We may need a revised link.

3.3 Still need to update the Riverwalk Site Plan page

at <https://www.waterfordmi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/208/Riverwalk-Site-Plan-PDF?bId=> to reflect the Extension and Connector.

4 Status of Riverwalk Extension to Drayton Plains Nature Center

4.1 Construction schedule seems to be on track to finish in June 2025 (restoration, seeding, close-out). A Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting ceremony is scheduled for June 28th, 2025 at 11am. Meeting location will be in the Community of Christ church parking lot at 1990 Crescent Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48327.

4.2 The entire pathway has been cleared and built up to accommodate heavy equipment. The west side bridge foundation has been excavated and construction reinforcements have been installed. Wasylkevych visited the site 01/20/2025 to confirm this information and take pictures.

4.3 America in Bloom will coordinate with the AnglinCivil project for the Riverwalk Green Barrier installation prior to the Grand Opening.

4.4 Grand Opening event does not appear to be delayed. However, it may be delayed to accommodate the completion of the Riverwalk Connector and/or any extension construction project slippage (would be best to showcase a completed end-to-end project).

4.5 Now that significant construction has begun, we need to incorporate a media plan to build excitement and inform the public ... determine how to collaborate with the Friends of the Greenways committee to accomplish this task.

5 Status of the Riverwalk Connector (current north end to red phone booth)
5.1 Preliminary engineering plans are complete, permit applications were submitted in December, should take 3-6 weeks for the permits, so it is expected that bids will go out in early February.
5.2 The expectation is that this is a "simple" paving job, which could be completed between March and May.
5.3 Township funds from ARPA will be used to complete this project. Budgeted cost is \$100,000.00
5.4 The goal is to complete the project in time for the June 2025 Grand Opening.

6 Friends of the Greenways Committee Report by Sue Camilleri
6.1 Are any other grants being pursued for greenways signage, especially for the Riverwalk Connector and Extension? Wasylkevych to follow-up with Camilleri for other details.
6.2 Art Exhibition update: sales for this years' theme of wind chimes have begun. Wind chimes are \$50 each and there is a limited supply. Any profit from the sale will be donated to Friends of the Greenways. The exhibit is scheduled to open June 18th, 2025. More information on how to participate can be found at the Library.
6.3 The Detroit Institute of Arts has a program called Partners in Public Art, and Waterford has been selected to participate in 2026 (the Township Board supported the application for it during their November 12, 2024 meeting). The DIA will fund and provide artists to redo the mural. Friends of the Greenways to coordinate with DIA.

7 Status of Other Greenways Projects
7.1 2025 meeting schedule published: 6 PM Wednesdays

- January 22, 2025
- March 19, 2025
- May 21, 2025
- July 16, 2025
- September 17, 2025
- November 19, 2025

7.1.1 Meeting Room booked at the library for the first two meetings only due to new room reservation requirements.
7.1.2 There may be schedule conflicts for the remaining meetings which will be discussed and revised at the March meeting, if needed.

7.2 Invasive Species
7.2.1 Clinton River Canoe Launch and Riverwalk Removal of Phragmites project : the contractor for this project, Davey Resource Group (DRG) started mulching of each of the four areas (one area is located along the Riverwalk and the other 3 areas located at the Clinton River Canoe Launch) during January & February 2025. Brown reports that they will be back out to finish the job soon and will follow-up. They will be back out in the Spring to evaluate the job and give recommendations for further treatment.

7.3 Status of **poster to direct Riverwalk concerns** to the Greenways Contact Us page
7.3.1 We will use the same graphic on our CGAC web page in place of the current bland Contact Us text.
7.3.2 Brown has drafted the poster. There are three QR codes in which one of the QR codes has a broken link. Brown to update the QR code and circulate the final draft of the poster to the group via email.

7.4 Discuss the Spring **Riverwalk Clean-up 2025**
7.4.1 Tentative date for the clean-up is Saturday, May 10th, 2025 9am to 12pm. This date will follow the Waterford Township Clean-up event for Earth Day and should not conflict with the Waterford Township Public Library 5K Run event. Wasylkevych to double check any other schedule conflicts and the Committee will finalize the scheduling of this event at their next meeting.
7.4.2 Brown to recycle poster from prior years and revise with updated dates and information.
7.4.3 Brown to update email listing and to send email blasts for the event once finalized.
7.4.4 Discuss installing mini-fences at the edges of the Riverwalk bridges to stop people from rolling shopping carts into the river. Wasylkevych to follow-up with DPW to complete this task before or during the Spring clean-up.

7.4.5 Waterford Township 10th Annual Clean-up event to honor Earth Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 26th, 2025 from 8am to 2pm. Any leftover supplies will be donated to the Greenways Committee for the Riverwalk Clean-up event.

7.5 Greenways connections priorities

7.5.1 Jeff Polkowsky has indicated that Scott (in his Development Services department) has completed working on a map that takes inventory on all existing, proposed, and currently under construction segments of trail networks.

7.5.2 They will be sharing this with the Parks and Rec department in January to align on Township priorities.

7.5.3 After which we (CGAC) should schedule a public meeting to get input on project prioritization.

7.5.4 We need to complete the maps mentioned below as soon as possible, to be prepared for the public meeting.

7.6 Greenways maps (slow progress on the Clinton River path and access points map)

7.6.1 Investigating various mapping software; working toward something we can post on the Greenways site as the start of multiple neighborhood greenways maps.

7.6.2 Work with Parks + Rec to try to get the Hospital Road sidewalk/pathway missing link included in as part of the Community Center planning project (without it, there is no pedestrian or bike pathway connecting Waterford to the former OCC campus).

7.6.3 Incorporate a media plan to publicize Waterford greenways and bike paths once the maps are published.

7.7 SEMCOG grant status update for the Waterford / Keego Iron Belle Trail Connection Planning Assistance Program engineering planning study.

7.7.1 A portion of the Iron Belle Trail was put into the current Phase 3 sidewalk project which includes N Cass Lake Road from Pontiac Lake Road to just past Elizabeth Lake Road; the new boardwalk section connecting to Keego Harbor will have to be included in a future project.

7.7.2 During the Board meeting January 13, 2025, DLZ Engineering was awarded the bid to use the grant to get started with a preliminary effort to design the Waterford Trail Connector Project, with the view that once designed (Winter + Spring 2025) and bid out (Fall 2025), additional funds can be found/released for construction (Spring + Summer 2026).

7.7.3 Look into how the Michigan Iron Belle Trail projects can be leveraged to complete some of the missing links within our Community Greenways.

8 Round Table

8.1 Powers suggested inviting new Township Supervisor, Tony Bartolotta, to our Greenways meetings. Brown to send an email invite.

9 Public Comment

9.1 Klein suggested that the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) may have advice for signage.

9.2 Klein is concerned about some walkways that may be to close to the road and difficult to improve.

9.3 Klein interested in more information regarding the Iron Belle Trail connector efforts and challenges.

10 Adjournment

Moved by Swartz to close the meeting

Seconded by Wasylkevych

RESOLVED, to adjourn the meeting at 7:08PM

Motion carried unanimously