

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Sue Camilleri, Roman Wasylkevych, Marie Hauswirth, Jacquelynn Brown, Amanda Scovel

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

None

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Camilleri called the meeting to order at 7:04PM
Roll call to confirm who was present

1. Approve Agenda

1.1 Agenda for September 21, 2023

Moved by Brown

Seconded by Hauswirth

RESOLVED to approve the September 21, 2023 agenda, as printed

Motion carried unanimously

2. Approve Minutes

2.1 Minutes for May 18, 2023

Moved by Hauswirth

Seconded by Wasylkevych

RESOLVED to approve the May 18, 2023 minutes, as printed

Motion carried unanimously

3. Meeting Schedule

3.1 Meeting frequency will be bi-monthly instead of quarterly. We will meet on the 3rd Thursday of each odd month at 6PM in the large Conference Room at the Waterford Township Library. Below is the tentative schedule -

3.2 2023 Meetings

- Thursday, November 16th, 2023

3.3 2024 Meetings

- Thursday, January 18th, 2023
- Thursday, March 21st, 2023
- Thursday, May 16th, 2023
- Thursday, July 18th, 2023
- Thursday, September 19th, 2023
- Thursday, November 21st, 2023

3.4 Camilleri to send revised calendar to the Township & Library to reserve the large Conference Room;
Brown to send Gmail calendar invites to board members

4. 501(c)(3) Status

4.1 Community Greenways Advisory Committee has been granted 501(c)(3) status by the IRS. If we want to proceed with this status, then here's what we have to do next –

- Create a new entity and dissolve the advisory committee. This will take Township Board action.
- Elect a Treasurer and open a checking account.
- Review the ByLaws copied from the Friends of the Library, revise as deemed necessary, and adopt them.

4.2 Discussion of the Pros and Cons of staying as a Committee of the Township vs. operating independently as a Non-profit Organization –

- Hauswirth is concerned with the funding process of a Non-profit Organization. For example, Committees of the Township have more secure funding by utilizing millages. Whereas, a Non-profit Organization relies on independent funding.
- Brown determined staying as a Committee keeps us closer to the Township and we are more likely to stay on their radar.
- Wasylkevych suggested maybe we could be both – a Committee and a Non-profit Organization – by creating a subsidiary entity that works as an extension of the Committee. For example, the Waterford Township Library and The Friends on the Library structure.

4.3 *TABLED* Camilleri to research the legalities of being both – a Committee and a Non-profit Organization that works as an extension of the existing Committee.

5. Forestry Grant

5.1 This is an example of a grant that is only available to 501(c)(3) organizations.

5.2 This is a DNR grant available for “disadvantaged communities”. Waterford is not considered a disadvantaged community so the Community Greenways Advisory Committee would not be able to apply for this grant as a Committee of the Township, but we will continue to look for other opportunities.

5.3 Possibly use trees/shrubs as a barrier at Briggs and Kohler Road to prevent vehicles from accessing the expanded Riverwalk.

6. Mural

6.1 Discussion of redoing the mural located at the Riverwalk under the bridge at M-59.

6.2 Camilleri reached out to the person that did the previous mural, but the cost to have them do another is not feasible.

6.3 Camilleri reached out to a resident in the Community that is known for graffiti art as a possible resource for this project.

6.4 Camilleri has some funding that could potentially be used towards this project. We have \$500.00 from a restitution fine when it was vandalized in the past. Also, there are funds from the “Just Ducky” and “Flying Fish” events.

6.5 Scovel will reach out to the Arts department for Waterford Township High Schools to see if they would be interesting in helping us with this project.

6.6 Wasylkevych mentioned making it some sort of competition.

6.7 Volunteers may be needed to power wash and create “blank slate” for new artwork.

6.8 Brown to double check measurements of this area.

7. All Else

- 7.1 *Exciting News* Waterford Township has allocated up to \$2million to be spent on the expansion of the Riverwalk. The Township received grant money from ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) which is monies that can be spent on infrastructure. The Riverwalk is considered infrastructure.
- 7.2 DLZ Engineering is the engineer and will oversee the contractors work for the expansion of the Riverwalk. They have drafted preliminary construction plans. DLZ is requesting a single-source vendor for the bridge aspect of the plan only. All other aspects to be completed for this project will go through a bidding process. The estimated cost from DLZ to complete this project is \$1,397,080.00 which includes a contingency of \$127,000.00. The estimate does not include updating the traffic controls at Tubbs Road & Crescent Lake Road which has an estimated cost of \$300,000.00 alone. Construction is estimated to commence in July 2024.
- 7.3 In theory, we have a budget-buffer of \$300,000.00, but that can get eaten up quickly. For example, things such as benches, trash cans, directional & informational signage, tree planting, invasive species removal, routine maintenance and capital projects. Wasylkevych is wondering if any leftover funding may be used for other Greenways' projects.
- 7.4 There is an unfinished part of the Riverwalk located west of Crescent Lake Road by the red telephone booth. This part of the Riverwalk is contingent on the development of the approved construction plan on file with the Township. There is a "ring road" in the construction plans that will serve a dual purpose – accessing the building in case of an emergency and finishing that part of the Riverwalk per easement of the property. Currently, construction is at a halt and there is no estimated time of completion.
- 7.5 The 2024 Master Plan is currently being drafted. Wasylkevych is wondering how the Riverwalk and Greenways fit into the 2024 Master Plan. Camilleri suggested reaching out to Jeff Polkowski, Director of Developmental Services, at Waterford Township. Brown to initiate introductory email.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Wasylkevych to close the meeting
Seconded by Scovel
RESOLVED, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12PM
Motion carried unanimously
