

Minutes  
Waterfront Advisory Committee  
Zoom  
May 1, 2023

**Attending:** Martin Overington, Tom Shannon, Donald Dubac, Arthur Cady, Don Westmore. Kaare Christian and Jo Hills

Martin Overington called the meeting to order at 7:03.

Minutes - April minutes corrected. Motion to approve made by Arthur Cady, seconded by Don Westmore, all approved.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Ice House Landing and the ROW**

Overington reported that the Town Board and Anthony Ciders did not approve of WAC driving equipment up to Ice Dock Landing for maintenance and tree planting. Still confusion as to who has the final say: Amtrak, the state, the federal government, the town?

### **Trees for the Riverfront**

The letter brought in \$3000 from, Parks raised about \$300 also. This will go to purchasing trees and planting them. The town requires three quotes for the purchase. Agreed to delay tree planting until September. Money still coming in for trees. We should get quotes for trees. Town law: for purchases of \$1000 to \$2000 need three verbal quotes, \$2000 - \$5000 need three written quotes, over \$5000 need four or more written or faxed quotes. We will wait until September for access to be resolved and to buy and plant trees at Ice Dock Landing.

### **Grants**

Bank of Green County — grant for trees and planting

Columbia Land Conservancy gave us \$500 grant. Shannon has bought grass seed and seedlings with some of this money and has

planted some at Ice House Landing. Still has more to plant in other places. CLC reimburses money spent. The Landing still needs clearing and there will be more trees planted. We need to keep the trees that weren't planted wet and cool.

### **Ice House Landing**

Shannon reported that the Landing is very muddy, that we need to put rocks in to keep cars out of the landing, that the land is slipping into the river, and that there was a lot of trash. If we can't use rocks perhaps we could put in green metal fence posts with rope. Need to clean up the landing. If we can't get machinery in this would have to be done manually! A historical marker should be put up at the Landing.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Amtrak**

Trucks parked at the Park and along the ROW at Cheviot for several days while they were doing work between Cheviot and Ice House Landing. Amtrak leases 25 feet but has expanded beyond that 25 feet. Amtrak 2018 Plan: wanted a train every hour between 6 am and 10 pm. Currently there are about 20 trains each day.

### **Calendar**

May 4— Water Chestnut power point put on by DEC

May 6— Riversweep — will the state police be there giving tickets?

May 13 — Canoe Race

### **Police and Ticketing**

There have been signs along the tracks that people on the tracks will be ticketed by state police since 2018. Amtrak police have asked people to not be along the tracks. But we don't believe anyone in Germantown has ever got a ticket from either the state or Amtrak and that it will not affect Riversweep. We will ask people not to cross the tracks but to enter at safe crossings during Riversweep and when fishing and enjoying the river.

## **Weed Cutter and Weed Cutting Machinery**

Need to pick it up from Rochester. — 3 hour ride each way. Should we buy more equipment?

## **Cheviot Causeway**

Overington brought up the possibility of getting rid of part or all of the causeway to the island. It creates shallows south and north up until Main Street and blocks the current. Removing it might help deepen the water near shore and help with the chestnuts. Christian brought up the problems of causeways in the Hudson in an Estuary Program 5 and 10 year plan. He also spoke with George Jackman of Riverkeeper who focuses on dam removals. The rock from the causeway could possibly be used to shore up Lasher Park.

Motion to adjourn made by Cady, seconded by Dubac.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28

Next meeting June 5.