

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY

## COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 3, 2024 AT 6:30PM

### Kendall Room

**Present:** Jean DeBellefeuille (Chair), John Scribner (Vice Chair), Ian McConnell (Secretary), Lee Parker, Yvette Meunier, Robin Riendeau (Banana Banners)

- I. Meeting called to order with requirements for a Quorum met
- II. Agenda accepted as presented
- III. Old business
  - a. CORA grant for interpretative signage at new waterfront park

Robin Riendeau of Banana Banners provided an introduction to the committee as the lead consultant on the project and Kara Wooldrik of Community Geographic also attended as lead on the wayfinding signage for accessible trail access at the new waterfront park. The committee reviewed the scope of work, responsibilities, timeline, and existing reports of signage work completed to date with Banana Banners.

Banana Banners will work with CDAC to manage a public process in determining interpretive signage locations, content, and design within the Maily Waterfront Park (1-2 signs), the new waterfront park (~5 signs), and within the Cathance River Trails (~5 signs) and present the signs to the community. The outcome will be the creation of approximately (10-12) scaled drawings of potential sign types and concepts, preliminary sign location plan, and message schedule. Fabrication of the signs is not included as part of this grant.

The first public meeting to gather community input on the signs will be held at the next CDAC meeting in January.

Committee members expressed interest in having a local map included as one of the signs. The existing Merrymeeting Bay map at Maily was done by local artist, Margaret Campbell, and may serve as a useful example for a future map. It may be worth having a local map highlighting other attractions in town as well. It was clarified that a sign for the name of the new park will not be included in this project. The committee stressed the importance of using signage to make the old and new parts of the waterfront park feel like a unified and coherent public space.

- b. Mural update and next steps

Update provided that the Selectboard approved funding for a total of up to \$8,000 for a 120 square foot mural to be installed on the Maily Park bathhouse.

The committee reviewed an example Call to Artists from a Holliston, Massachusetts mural project provided by staff. This process differed from the committee's original idea as it required the artists to submit a portfolio of work and answer a few essay questions, rather than requesting the artist to create a mockup of their submission. A discussion ensued about how much effort an artist should be asked to put into creating an actual piece to be judged verses looking at examples of one's work and a written project description to get a sense of an artist's abilities, aesthetic, and design. It was decided that the Holliston process seemed more equitable to the artists. A draft Call to Artists will be discussed at the next meeting.

Further, the committee decided that the best way to determine a theme for the mural would be through a public survey giving three choices for the community to weigh in on. The options developed at the meeting and through brief email exchange after were waterways/nature, agriculture, and arts and craftsmanship. The committee further defined the process of the artist selection. It was decided that MAC will be asked to convene a group of residents to weigh in on submissions this spring and will make a recommendation to CDAC who will make a final decision on the muralist. It was also discussed that if we can lower the costs of the materials for the project the committee would be in favor of making a donation of \$500 to MAC for their assistance in this process.

c. Next steps on Village Partnership Initiative

Gorrill Palmer has been meeting with town staff to discuss the most challenging aspects of the village transportation redesign, particularly the boat launch parking and redesign of lower Main St. Another public meeting will be scheduled in early 2025 to review the revised concept designs.

IV. Meeting minutes from 11/5/24 were reviewed and accepted as written

V. Next CDAC meeting is scheduled for January 7th at 6:30pm to coincide with public input meeting on signage project

VI. Meeting Adjourned