

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 AT 6:30PM

### Kendall Room

**Present:** Jean DeBellefeuille (Chair), John Scribner (Vice Chair), Ian McConnell (Secretary), Lee Parker, Yvette Meunier (Staff), Robin Riendeau (Banana Banners), Nan Cumming (Merrymeeting Arts Center)

- I. Meeting called to order with requirements for a Quorum met
- II. Agenda accepted
- III. Meeting minutes from 2/4/2025 approved as presented
- IV. Old business
  - i) CORA interpretive signage update from Robin Riendeau on draft Analysis & Recommendations
    - Updated draft added triangular kiosks, likely on concrete pad, to both entrances of the park.
    - Ballpark estimated costs of manufacturing signs have now been added to document – total just over \$78,000.
    - Clarified that manufacturer of signs will also be responsible for installation – or perhaps engage local groups in assisting.
    - For next meeting, Robin will include estimated installation costs.
    - Next CDAC meeting will be a public meeting where community will review two possible style layouts for this signage.
  - ii) Mural Call to Artists
    - MAC reviewed the draft at their board meeting two weeks ago. No major concerns with the Call to Artists.
    - Committee agreed that it would be better to require all applicants to submit electronically for ease of review by the selection committee.
    - MAC is open to having a member of CDAC serving on the selection committee. They are considering 6-8 people on the selection committee. They are open to suggestions for selection committee members by email.
    - MAC will create scoring rubric for submissions to be reviewed by CDAC at next meeting.
    - Committee agreed to leave decision on type of aluminum up to artist. Also clarified that artist will be responsible for the cost of the paint.
    - Total award for the artist will be increased from \$4,200 to \$4,500 to help cover paint costs.

- The Call to Artists is to be released on March 10 to create a piece with the theme of Waterways and Nature. This theme received 114 votes, compared to 26 for Agriculture, and 9 for Arts & Craftsmanship.

iii) Letter of Support for AARP grant

- CDAC endorsed letter of support for grant being pursued by Age Friendly Committee to support their activities as well as install ADA park benches, picnic table, and bike racks.

iv) Recommendation on naming of new park

- Question was raised of how Phillip Maily Park was named and when.
- Committee discussed idea of having the new park simply keep name of Phillip Maily. Committee agreed on making unanimous recommendation to name entire park on both sides of Route 24 “Phillip Maily Waterfront Park”.

V. Staff update

i) Yellow building

- FEMA grant came through to assess integrity of yellow building and determine options for maintaining/expanding.
- Committee agreed to wait on initial assessment by FEMA before seriously considering options for use by the town.

ii) VPI

- Final public meeting likely to be at the end of March.

iii) Country store

- There was public meeting with co-op general store in Vermont. Roughly 15 people attended. Key takeaways were the importance of having revenue beyond just the store goods, for example a bar. Also highlighted the importance of having passionate leadership. They have been able to break even.
- Committee agreed to monitor proceedings without being directly involved.

VI. Next CDAC meeting is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm

VII. Meeting Adjourned