

## **Machias Revitalization Committee**

November 17, 2017

7 am – Bluebird Ranch Restaurant

**Present:** Angela Fochesato, Josh Rolfe, Sandi Malagara, Ryan Malagara, Marci Gaglione, Christina Therrien, Bill Kitchens and Jim Jackson

**Press:** Bob Berta

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments

There were no changes to the minutes. Josh Rolfe moved to accept the minutes as presented. Christina seconded. All accepted.

Regarding the Waterfront Resilience and Renewal grant, Christina had nothing to report at this time.

Angela said that the Westside Trail and River Walk projects are coming right along and that everything was coming together. The History Tour project is going well, there are some editing and additions being done all is well. The QR codes and maps are being worked on.

The Bike Lending Project is going well. Bikes are being worked on and all will be relocated to a Cherryfield Foods warehouse for the winter. The new bikes from Walmart will be ready for spring.

As to the banners and signage, Angela has not gotten a response from Dan and will attempt to visit him at his office.

Sandi Malagara presented to the committee last spring Sandi Bryant's idea of having large murals painted on wood and mounted on the side of Main Street businesses. Sandi Malagara said that Sandi Bryant offered to pay for the murals. The committee thought it was a great idea. However, after being unable to find someone willing to paint the murals the committee decided to change to photos printed on canvas. Sandi Malagara asked for clarification from the group as to theme for the murals for Main Street. It was agreed that the theme stay centered on the logging industry. She will do the research.

Christina brought up that she felt Machias' participation in the Underground Railroad was a very interesting historical fact that was often overlooked as well as the history pertaining to pirates and smugglers.

Sandi reported on the Green Space committee's work. The fall planting is done and planning is well underway for spring planting which must be completed by June 1, 2018. The committee has talked to Smitty's Gun Shop, Sunrise County Economic Council and the owner of the new car wash, all whom want to have trees planted. There are other opportunities being pursued.

Christina reported that work at the airport is going very well and that the road will be paved in the spring. The building is going well and next year there will be a fundraiser.

Christina and Bill Kitchens met with representatives from the offices of Senator King and Senator Collins concerning keeping the 5,000 mile runway. Well received and positive meeting and they felt it would help to keep the momentum going.

Christina reported that a grant will be submitted for a Recreational Center. There will be a pre-meeting in July. There are plans for a playground area and a building that will "house" a Port-a-Potty as well as have areas for storage. The grant is for \$203,000. with us being responsible for 50%. Christina estimates there is 50 to 60 thousand set aside already toward that end.

Angela announced that the National Fitness Campaign chose Machias as one of two locations chosen in Maine to be home to one of their centers. A location will need to be found as well as some preliminary planning for the various stations and other needs. Angela asked for some people to be a core group on this project. Ryan Malagara, Jim Jackson and Bill Kitchens all agreed to help. Angela will contact them for a time to meet. The meeting time and place will be publicly announced and an open meeting.

Angela motioned to adjourn and Sandi seconded. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held at 7 a.m. January 11, 2018 at Bluebird Ranch Restaurant, Machias.