



City of Niagara Falls, New York

745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

MEETING SUMMARY

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Time of Meeting: 3:30PM – 5:00PM

Location: Virtual

Attendees: Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC) members or alternates

Vincent Iacovitti, New York State Parks
Karen Kwandrans, Niagara University
Carol Sampson, New York Power Authority
Christine Stephans, Aquarium of Niagara
Christian Campos, TM Montante Development
Michael Marsch, Merani Hotel Group
Marco Notaro, Habitat for Humanity
City of Niagara Falls representatives
Kevin Forma, Director of Planning
Edyta Chorostkowska, Environmental Planner
Consulting Team
Samuel Gordon, EDR
Susan Caruvana, EDR
Benjamin Woelk, EDR
Ava Bybee, EDR (intern)
Tanya Zwahlen, Highland Planning
Jenny Mogavero, PHC
Laura Evans, PHC
Sean Hare, MKSK

Absent: WAC members

Lisa Routhier, Sunshine Café owner
Nirel Patel, Rupal Hospitality
Jack Goeddertz, La Salle Yacht Club
Art Jocoy, Cayuga Island resident

**RE: Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)
WAC Workshop #1**

Items Discussed:

1. Schedule (Susan) – we are on track. This may take up to 3 years. Will get back together in September when consultant team will present WAC with inventory and analysis information.
2. Community Outreach Plan (Tanya) – 15 page plan has been created to act as a guide for when and how we are sharing the process with the community.



City of Niagara Falls, New York

745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

- a. Internal communication between WAC via email.
 - b. WAC can blast out via their social media, payroll system, flyers.
 - c. Focus on residents, home owners, renters, property owners, business owners, community leaders, organizational leaders, work/live 5 days per week. Niagara USA Chamber of Commerce is good. There is no one we don't want to reach.
 - d. We will prepare social media material / package to distribute to WAC and to be consistent. Some groups may need tailored messages (e.g., why is a WAC member participating in this).
 - e. Pre-stakeholder interviews – NF residents take pride in how they describe waterfront, this resonates with WAC. Public enhancements along waterfront – could be used to leverage social media message. Need to understand what the entire waterfront is, and not focus on the falls.
3. LWRP Outline (Susan)
- a. 7 different sections
 - b. Waterfront Revitalization Area (WRA) boundary is important to establish right now since that will guide the inventory and analysis.
 - c. Questions about adding John B Daly Blvd extension to connect Pine Ave, but not to include the downtown and Seneca neighborhood.
 - d. Any properties within the WRA could take advantage of grant funding, but would be subject to LWRP consistency check.
 - e. We can start applying for grant funding once Section 5 is submitted to DOS and the 2nd public meeting is done.
4. Entire group participated in a Jam Board session where we wrote down the Concerns and Opportunities along the waterfront.

Action Items:

1. ALL to provide comments re: Community Outreach Plan by Friday 7/28 – send comments to Edyta, Tanya or Susan.
 - a. edyta.chorostkowska@niagarafallsny.gov
 - b. tanya@highland-planning.com
 - c. scaruvana@edrdpc.com
2. Jenny to update WRA map by Thursday 7/20 at 9am. CNF to look into adding John B Daly Blvd extension parcels into WRA by Friday 7/28.
3. Jam boards will be open until Friday 7/28. Add comments as needed.
4. Come up with locations for hosting public meetings and workshops. Add to jam board.
5. EDR to send out 44 policies for high level review.