



City of Niagara Falls, New York

745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

MEETING SUMMARY

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, October 17, 2023

Time of Meeting: 4:30PM – 6:00PM

Location: Earl Brydges Public Library, Main St, Niagara Falls, NY

Attendees: Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC) members or alternates
Vincent Iacovitti, New York State Parks
Karen Kwandrans, Niagara University
Louis Paonessa, New York Power Authority
Michael Marsch, Merani Hotel Group
Marco Notaro, Habitat for Humanity
Jack Goeddertz, La Salle Yacht Club
Art Jocoy, Cayuga Island resident
Bill Barrons, Wilbur's Bar
Paul Ray, USA Niagara / Empire State Development
City of Niagara Falls representatives
Edyta Chorostkowska, Environmental Planner
Consulting Team
Samuel Gordon, EDR
Susan Caruvana, EDR
Benjamin Woelk, EDR
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
Gary Siddall, Aquarium of Niagara
Christian Campos, TM Montante Development
City of Niagara Falls representatives
Kevin Forma, Director of Planning

**RE: Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)
WAC Workshop #2**

Items Discussed:

1. Schedule (Sam Gordon) – we are on track. Save the date for the first public meeting on November 29, 2023. It would be good to have the WAC members attend.
2. Jamboard Summary (Sam) – Reviewed the opportunities and concerns.



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3. Inventory and Analysis (Laura Evans)
 - a. Reviewed demographic information for the WRA, Niagara Falls, Niagara County and New York State. WRA demographics make sense.
 - b. Discussed the appearance of the graphics and how they would translate to the general public.
 - c. Reviewed the WRA maps. DOS earlier recommended that the armory and library on Main St should be in the WRA. Team discussed option to expand the WRA to include the eastern properties along Main St.
4. Public Workshop #1 (Tanya Zwahlen)
 - a. Discussed the public meeting goals, format and stations.
 - b. Deveaux Woods State Parks is booked but can only hold 50 people. Space was deemed too small and not readily accessible. Train station was recommended as an alternate site.
 - c. WAC members are requested to distribute the public meeting information throughout their network. Highland Planning will prepare a flyer, social media post and email press release. Survey will be made available prior to meeting.
5. Work Session (Sam) – brainstormed potential projects with the WAC members. Ideas captured included:
 - Improve (overall) food access.
 - Trail Amenities bathrooms, places to stop.
 - 102nd Street Landfill waterfront use?
 - Improve connection between Buffalo Ave and Parkway at 53rd St and Portage
 - Wastewater Treatment Plant is located on the waterfront – can this be relocated? Or can access to the waterfront be created?
 - Clean up properties along the north end of the WRA where the parkway is located, (renovate properties).
 - Create opportunities for people to pull over and interact with the waterfront. (Do an inventory of existing conditions to determine where you can park and get out of your car).
 - 87th and Buffalo / Cayuga Drive - investments in streetscape and amenities.
 - Make connection between Buffalo Ave and River Rd. and the waterfront trail.
 - Frontier Ave: add additional parking areas, parking enhancements.
 - Welcoming and safety first - lighting, benches, garbage cans, security.
 - Smart city technology
 - Bike Master Plan – cycle track in Hyde Park.
 - NYS Parks Master Plan & USA Niagara
 - On the water concert venue – Griffin Park, Cayuga Island.
 - (Examine) boundaries of existing plans.

Action Items:

1. PHC to update WRA map.
2. Highland Planning to prepare public meeting materials. City will send materials to WAC. WAC members to distribute public meeting information to their networks.
3. City and EDR to look into hosting the public meeting at the train station.