



Meeting Minutes

Riverwalk Commission

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Wednesday, October 9, 2024

7:30 AM

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**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

Commissioner Friant called the October 9, 2024 Naperville Riverwalk Commission meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was held in the Naperville Employee University (NEU) at the Naperville Municipal Center located at 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL.

**B. ROLL CALL:**

Present: Pam Bartlett; Grant Cowen; Jan Erickson; Jeff Friant; Mary Gibson; Ian Holzhauer (arrived 7:33 a.m.); Aarav Khullar; Johnna Shields; Kyle Wang; and Carl Wohlt

Absent: John Cuff; Pat Kennedy, Chairman; Bill Novack; Tiffani Picco; and Mike Sullivan

Also Present: Tim Ball, GRWA; Rebecca DeLarme, City staff; and Mike DiCristina, Naperville Park District; and Carl Peterson, GRWA

Friant welcomed Khullar and Wang, the newly appointed Student Commissioners, and thanked them for volunteering to be a part of the Riverwalk Commission. A brief introduction was provided by each member of the group at this time.

**C. PUBLIC FORUM:**

There were no public comments.

**D. PROJECT UPDATES:**

There were no project updates.

**E. OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business to discuss.

**F. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. 2025 Riverwalk Commission and Planning, Design and Construction  
Committee meetings schedule - Jeff Friant for Pat Kennedy**

Receive the 2025 Riverwalk Commission meeting and Planning, Design and Construction Committee meeting schedule

Attachments: [2025RWC-PDCMeetingDates](#)

Friant reviewed the 2025 meeting schedule for the Riverwalk Commission and the Riverwalk Planning, Design and Construction (PDC) Committee meetings that was included in the agenda packet. He noted that two of the PDC Committee meetings would be held in the previous months due to the timing of holding those meetings eight days prior to the Riverwalk Commission meetings, which are held on the second Wednesday of each month.

## **G. REPORTS:**

### **1. Approval of Minutes - Jeff Friant for Pat Kennedy**

Approve minutes from the September 11, 2024 Riverwalk Commission meeting

Attachments: [24RWCMinutes0911](#)

A motion to approve the September 11, 2024 Riverwalk Commission meeting minutes was made by Bartlett and seconded by Erickson.  
MOTION CARRIED

### **2. Chairman - Rebecca DeLarme for Pat Kennedy**

DeLarme read the following statement from Kennedy recognizing Friant for his service to the Riverwalk Commission and the Riverwalk PDC Committee:

“Jeff - I really wish I was there doing this in person. But the way you and I have tag-teamed the leadership of commission and PD&C over the past few years it feels kinda fitting that you need to fill in for me on your last meeting.

I have enjoyed our time together and serving with you on this commission so much. Your steady hand and the way you viewed the toughest of issues has been invaluable. We started together roughly 6 years ago during the difficult days of studying the issues of the Carillon and determining the best path forward for it. Your wisdom then, and your perspective on many other issues through the years, and your leadership as chair of the PD&C through the creation of Master Plan 2031 will leave an imprint on this commission and on the riverwalk for years to come. You have much to be proud of and we have much to thank you for. On behalf of the commission and people of Naperville - thank you for your dedicated service!”

The group expressed their gratitude to Friant at this time.

**3. Park District - Mike DiCristina for Tiffani Picco**

Receive the monthly Park District report

Attachments: [24ParkDistrictMemo1009](#)

DiCristina reported on the following highlights from the Park District report that was included with the agenda packet.

Staff was busy with watering due to the drought and many irrigation issues were repaired. Some of the summer annuals have been removed and replaced and the remainder of the summer flowers will be removed as they fade for the season.

Plants have been added to the three cutouts on the lower walk by Water Street, and the area near the covered bridge by the Park District Administration building has been completed.

The Plow statue in Farmer's Plaza has been restored and the work on the Labyrinth at the Riverwalk Amphitheater has been completed.

Successful recent events included the Last Fling, the September 11th Ceremony and the Riverwalk Fine Art Fair.

The Halloween Happening is scheduled between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on October 27th at the Riverwalk Grand Pavilion.

Holzhauer inquired about who owned the plow statue in Farmer's Plaza. Erickson noted that Cliff Preston, former Riverwalk Commission Chairman, took excellent care of it over the years and she believed it was owned by the City of Naperville. This information will be confirmed with Novack.

**4. Riverwalk Foundation - John Cuff**

There was no report.

**5. Riverwalk 2031 Fund - Grant Cowen**

Cowen advised the Riverwalk 2031 Fund continues to focus on major gifts, gifts in general, and are identifying sources for funding.

**6. Donor Recognition - Rebecca DeLarme**

Receive the monthly Donor Recognition report

DeLarme reported that the Fall 2024 Legacy Gift Order was submitted to the engraver. The installation will be scheduled with the Park District and donors once the order is complete. The Spring 2025 Legacy Gift order

deadline is March 15, 2025 and currently consists of one 4" x 8" commemorative brick and one 8" x 8" commemorative brick.

## **7. Planning, Design, and Construction - Jeff Friant**

Receive the October 1, 2024 Riverwalk Planning, Design and Construction Committee draft meeting minutes

Attachments: [24PDCMinutes1001Draft](#)

Friant reported on the following items that were discussed in detail at the October 1st PDC Committee meeting.

South Extension Progress Update - The Riverwalk consultants reviewed the landscaping and site layout information with the group. The lighting was discussed along with shields that could prevent glare on the neighbors. Tree removal and replacement, 10 and 100 year flood events, and screening were also discussed.

Shoreline Stabilization Plan - The Naperville Park District staff discussed their plan for the shoreline stabilization project for the north and east banks of the Riverwalk from Jefferson Avenue to the Naperville Jaycees Playground. The Park District is collaborating with DuPage County on this project and it is scheduled for completion in spring or summer of 2025.

## **H. MEETING SCHEDULE:**

Riverwalk Planning, Design & Construction, November 5, 2024, 7:30 a.m.  
Municipal Center NEU, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

Riverwalk Commission, November 13, 2024, 7:30 a.m.  
Municipal Center NEU, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

Riverwalk Planning, Design & Construction, December 3, 2024, 7:30 a.m.  
Municipal Center NEU, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

Riverwalk Commission, December 11, 2024, 7:30 a.m.  
Municipal Center NEU, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

## **I. ADJOURNMENT:**

Prior to adjournment, Holzhauer discussed the fire show at the Providence River Walk and encouraged the group to look into as something to consider for Naperville. Bartlett noted that the Downtown Naperville Alliance recently discussed having music on the river on Wednesday evenings with the possibility of holding a prior event at the Riverwalk Amphitheater. They plan to come before the Riverwalk Commission at a later date for further discussion.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Cowan and seconded by Shields. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 a.m. MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted by  
Rebecca DeLarme, City Staff