



# City of Naperville

400 S. Eagle Street  
Naperville, IL 60540  
<http://www.naperville.il.us/>

## Meeting Minutes

### Riverwalk Commission

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Wednesday, May 14, 2025

7:30 AM

NEU

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#### A. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Bartlett called the May 14, 2025 Naperville Riverwalk Commission meeting to order at 7:31 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, Chair; Hannah Brauer; Grant Cowen; John Cuff; Jan Erickson; Ian Holzhauer; Andy Hynes; Seth Michael; Tiffani Picco; Johnna Shields; and Carl Wohlt

Absent: Aarav Khullar, Student Representative; Mike Sullivan; and Kyle Wang, Student Representative

Also Present: Tim Ball, Gary R. Weber Associates, Inc. (GRWA); Jesus Cortez, NCTV17; Rebecca DeLarme, City staff; Brian Dusak, Engineering Resource Associates (ERA); Rick Hitchcock, former Riverwalk Commission Chair; Stephanie Penick, Naperville Riverwalk Foundation; Carl Peterson, GRWA (arrived 7:39 a.m.); Katie Rubush, City staff; Carol Thompson, resident; Mary Lou Wehrli, resident; and Mayor Scott Wehrli (arrived 8:16 a.m.)

#### C. PUBLIC FORUM:

Hitchcock requested that the Riverwalk Commission consider including the location of the Jaycees' Last Fling event on next month's agenda. He discussed conversations at a recent Downtown Naperville Alliance (DNA) meeting where impacts to downtown businesses were discussed, and noted DNA's plans to work with the Jaycees, the Park District and the City of Naperville regarding the 2026 event. Considering the current location's proximity to the Riverwalk, he feels the Riverwalk Commission may have a legitimate voice in the discussion. Mary Lou Wehrli discussed the beginnings of the Last Fling event, noting the importance of safety for the community.

Bartlett read an email received from Philip Ryan, a resident, regarding his disappointment with the change in color from blue to black on the interior of

the Dandelion Fountain. Erickson discussed reasons for the change, noting the current color trend across the county. The change in color is less welcoming and the importance of protecting the equipment within the fountain was noted. Picco reiterated that the change in color is less inviting for individuals to enter the fountains as they are water features and not pools. She added that the change may make maintenance easier for cleaning purposes and that the liner for the Exchange Club Memories Fountain in Fredenhagen Park was only available in black. The interior of the Horse Trough Fountain will also be painted black, making all fountain basins match.

## **D. PROJECT UPDATES:**

### **1. Eagle Street Gateway Project Update - Andy Hynes**

Andy Hynes will share a brief status on the Eagle Street Gateway project

**Attachments:** [EagleStreetGatewayPhotos20250507](#)

Hynes provided an update on the Eagle Street Gateway project. Demolition is complete and the contractor has been installing piers and working on the walls on the lower walkway. The project is on schedule with completion expected near Labor Day.

## **E. OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business to discuss.

## **F. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. South Extension Project - Andy Hynes**

Approve the preliminary design of the South Extension of the Riverwalk

**Attachments:** [NRW SE 3D 20250501](#)

Hynes discussed the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan project to extend the Riverwalk from Hillside Road to Martin Avenue. Further information included in the agenda packet noted the preliminary cost estimate for construction, which is approximately \$3.9M. The project is currently programmed in the City's budget for construction in 2026. An \$800,000 state grant and a \$700,000 contribution from Edward Hospital/Endeavor Health will pay for a portion of this improvement. A three-dimensional model of the proposed extension was provided by GRWA and included in the agenda packet. Ball presented a video of the rendering for the group.

Mary Lou Wehrli stated that the Riverwalk is a community endeavor. She noted the absence of the residents and the absence of the Naperville Cemetery in the 3D graphics, adding that they were not to scale and the

pages should be numbered. She expressed concern with placing a “hangout” area across from the residents and placing benches directly across from neighbors. She inquired as to where the park hours and bike signs would be posted and suggested making a bumpy surface in the area where the path splits.

After further discussion, a motion to bring this item back to the Planning, Design and Construction (PDC) Committee meeting for further discussion was made by Cuff and seconded by Shields. MOTION CARRIED

## **2. Grand Pavilion Area Programming - Andy Hynes**

Direct City and Park District staff to prepare a community survey to assist with scope development for improvement to the Riverwalk Grand Pavilion

Attachments: [Grand Pavilion Parking and Plaza Concept Drawing](#)

Hynes discussed the Grand Pavilion project from the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan, noting staff’s recommendation to seek community input from the public and past renters to determine potential enhancements. City and Park District staff will prepare a list of draft survey questions to be shared with the Commission at a future meeting.

A motion to direct staff to prepare a community survey to assist with the scope development for improvement to the Riverwalk Grand Pavilion was made by Erickson and seconded by Cowen. MOTION CARRIED

## **G. REPORTS:**

### **1. Approval of Minutes - Pam Bartlett**

Approve minutes from the April 9, 2025 Riverwalk Commission meeting

Attachments: [25RWCMminutes0409](#)

A motion to approve the April 9, 2025 Riverwalk Commission meeting minutes was made by Picco and seconded by Cuff. MOTION CARRIED

### **2. Chair - Pam Bartlett**

Bartlett reported that this was her last meeting as Riverwalk Commissioner. She noted the new Chair would soon be appointed by the Mayor. She announced Hynes’ appointment as Riverwalk Commissioner on April 16th, and that Sullivan and Wohlt would be serving their second terms effective June 1st. This would also be the last meeting for the student representatives, Khullar and Wang, who were unable to attend.

Mayor Wehrli thanked Bartlett for serving as Chair of the Riverwalk Commission and presented her with a certificate of appreciation for her

service as Riverwalk Commissioner. A framed photo of the Riverwalk that was gifted by fellow Commissioners was also presented at this time. The group expressed their appreciation to Bartlett for her outstanding service to the Riverwalk Commission.

### **3. Park District - Tiffani Picco**

Receive the monthly Park District report

Attachments: [25ParkDistrictMemo0514](#)

Picco reviewed the following highlights from the Park District report included in the agenda packet.

The construction and regrading part of the shoreline restoration project in sections 1 and 2 is complete. Flags have been placed where thirty trees and ninety shrubs will be planted.

Twenty 12" x 18" signs to "Walk Your Wheels" were placed in different areas along the Riverwalk and are intended to stay up through the month of May. Mary Lou Wehrli suggested including a QR code on the signs that explains Class 1 and Class 2 e-bikes. Adding a sticker was suggested.

### **4. Riverwalk Foundation - John Cuff**

Cuff noted three members of the Naperville Riverwalk Foundation attended the previous AMP walk.

Penick discussed the upcoming Duck Race, which is scheduled for June 6th at 11:00 a.m. It will take place from Eagle Street to Webster Street and \$6,100 worth of ducks were sold as of this morning. She thanked those in the group that have donated.

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

There was no report.

### **6. Donor Recognition - Rebecca DeLarme**

Receive the monthly Donor Recognition report

The Fall 2025 Legacy Gift order deadline is September 1st and currently consists of two 8" x 8" commemorative bricks. The Spring 2025 order has been completed by the engraver and installation for the 4" x 8" bricks has been scheduled with the donors and the Park District for tomorrow morning. The 8" x 8" brick installation will be scheduled after the repairs to the Exchange Club Memories Fountain are completed.

### **7. Planning, Design, and Construction - Jan Erickson**

Receive the May 6, 2025 Riverwalk Planning, Design and Construction Committee draft meeting minutes

Attachments: [25PDCMinutes0506Draft](#)

Erickson noted that all pertinent information from the PDC Committee meeting was discussed in this meeting.

## **H. MEETING SCHEDULE:**

Riverwalk Commission Annual AMP Walk (East of Eagle Street), May 15, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

Meet in Municipal Center NEU, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

Riverwalk Planning, Design & Construction, June 3, 2025, 7:30 a.m.

Municipal Center NEU, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

\*\*Riverwalk Commission, June 11, 2025, 7:30 a.m.

Municipal Center LUNCHROOM, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

Riverwalk Planning, Design & Construction, July 1, 2025

Municipal Center NEU, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

## **I. ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Holzhauer and seconded by Cowan. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 a.m. MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted by

/S/ Rebecca DeLarme

Program Assistant

Transportation, Engineering and Development Business Group