



City of Naperville

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

Meeting Minutes

Riverwalk Commission

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

3:00 PM

Meet in Meeting Room C

Annual AMP Walk (West of Eagle St.)

A. ROLL CALL:

Riverwalk Commissioner Attendees: 10 - Hannah Brauer; Grant Cowen; Andy Hynes; Jeff Martin; Tiffani Picco; Leslie Ruffing; Greg Sagen; Johnna Shields; Mike Sullivan; and Carl Wohlt

Additional Attendees: Tim Ball, GRWA; Rebecca DeLarme, City staff; Brian Dusak, ERA; Natalie Fopma, NCTV17; Ethan Furlow, student; Mary Hamill, ACTF; Rick Hitchcock, former Riverwalk Commission Chairman; Stephanie Penick, Naperville Riverwalk Foundation; and Carl Peterson, GRWA

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Commence Annual Asset Management Plan Walk - Tiffani Picco

1. Receive walkthrough outline for the upcoming Asset Management Plan (AMP) Walks

Attachments: [AMP Walk Outline 2026](#)

Commissioner Picco guided the group, starting on the west side of Eagle Street. The following topics were covered and are categorized by section.

Follow-up items for future discussion at upcoming Riverwalk Commission meetings are noted in bold print.

Section 4:

1. **Riverwalk banners**: Picco pointed out the quality of the new Riverwalk banners, noting the colors should hold up all year. If so, they will continue with this style in the future. The current banners are red, white and blue in honor of the US 250th but other colors can be ordered which are often coordinated with area flowers.
2. **Physicians and Dentists Shelter Overlook**: Picco pointed out the new railing that was replaced along Eagle Street. She noted that some spots of the original railing are showing rust and may need to be replaced in the future. She pointed out the erosion under the concrete curbing and railing. She believes this may be a bigger project than replacing the rails and may need to be reimagined in the future.
3. **Chain link fencing around Paddleboat Quarry**: This fencing is starting to

show age in certain spots and there is exposure at the bottom. Hitchcock noted that the entire area should be reimagined. Wohlt inquired about strengthening the visual connection to Naper Settlement from this area.

4. **Aurora Avenue retaining wall**: The retaining wall is leaning and the top is starting to crumble and deteriorate. This has been included in the City's budget for 2028-29.
5. **Harmony Park**: The group viewed the landscape improvements. Mallets are missing from the large instrument (Contrabass Chimes).
6. **Bollards and Shelter Roofs**: Picco pointed out that staff pressure-washed all of the shelter roofs and wood bollards on the Riverwalk, noting the huge improvement.
7. **Netzley Overlook**: Picco discussed the Overlook update which is part of the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan. Ball and Peterson discussed the proposed secondary path and using flagstone steps which would also open up the area. Sullivan inquired if the existing pavers could be power washed.
8. **Metal Bridge**: Picco discussed the amount of graffiti the area gets and the carvings made along the top of the railing. Park District staff repaints the top of the railing annually, and other areas as needed.
9. **Paperbark Maple**: Picco noted the young tree that was vandalized last year (thrown in the river), which now has new leaves. Staff continues to monitor to ensure it is thriving.

Section 2:

1. **Bases of signs**: Picco noted the peeling paint occurring on the bottom base of the signs, especially in the Section 2 area. She will look into having a contractor remove the existing peeling paint and touch up the non-removable flanges at the base of the signs.
2. **Prairie Nature Garden**: The group discussed the invasive and native plants with Picco noting the potential timing of future burns. Sullivan inquired about removing the shoots from the base of the crabapple tree in the southeast section of the garden.
3. **Sinking pavers**: Picco noted the sinking pavers along the concrete curbing on the south side of the path next to the river and across from the Jaycees Playground. Areas will be prioritized and the pavers will be reset on an annual basis and covered with PA022 funds.
4. **Shoreline Restoration Project**: Plugs were set in June of last year and this will be the first full year of the shoreline project.

Section 1:

1. **Retaining wall near Jefferson Avenue**: Picco discussed the need to monitor the dry stack stone retaining wall as there are areas shifting and sinking. The group discussed the incredible vista looking southeast and the use of the area. Placing a bench in the area was suggested.
2. **Pavers sinking along concrete curbing**: Picco noted more sinking pavers in the Brethren Peace Plaza. This area along with the area in section 2 may be addressed initially and covered with PA022 funds.
3. **Newly paved path near Sindt Woods**: Sedges will be planted along the newly paved, sloped path to help with erosion.

Section 3:

1. Stone fascia of planter: Park District staff will remove the vine and replace the missing stones on the planter.
2. Retaining wall and lower walkway - west of covered bridge: Part of the wall is bulging in spots.
3. Retaining wall and lower walkway - east of covered bridge: The group reviewed the area.
4. Admin parking lot repaving: The parking lot has been redone and completely resurfaced. One ADA spot was relocated closer to the access area for the Eagle Street Gateway.

Section 4:

1. Irrigation system and pump house: The irrigation system will need to be replaced. The current system is original to the area and at least 50 years old. The rotary heads have to be manually turned on during staff working hours. Ideally, this could run at night and not impact users.
2. **Lower walk from shelter to Eagle Street**: Some of the group walked the lower walkway toward Eagle Street to experience the existing conditions. This will be part of future discussions on the Eagle Street South Bank Improvement project of the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan.
3. **Lighting on Landforms Sculpture (and other areas)**: Wohlt noted the need to discuss lighting for the Landforms Sculpture and other areas of the Riverwalk at a future meeting.
4. Completed Eagle Street Gateway project: The group ended the walk at the Eagle Street Gateway.

The walk ended at 4:41 p.m.