



City of Naperville

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

Meeting Minutes

Riverwalk Commission

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

7:30 AM

Meeting Room C

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Erickson called the December 10, 2025 Naperville Riverwalk Commission meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was held in Meeting Room C at the Naperville Municipal Center located at 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present: 13 - Hannah Brauer; Grant Cowen; John Cuff; Jan Erickson, Chair; Ian Holzhauser; Andy Hynes; Seth Michael; Tiffani Picco; Leslie Ruffing; Greg Sagen; Johnna Shields; Mike Sullivan; Carl Wohlt

Also Present: Tim Ball, Gary R. Weber Associates, Inc. (GRWA); Rebecca DeLarme, City staff; Natalie Fopma, NCTV17; Rick Hitchcock, former Riverwalk Commission Chair; Jeff Martin, Naperville Riverwalk Foundation; Peggy Motta, Naperville Park District; Stephanie Penick, Naperville Riverwalk Foundation; and Carl Peterson, GRWA

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. Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan Update - Jan Erickson

Approve the 2025 Update to Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan

Attachments: [ER0613_RiverwalkMasterplanDraft\(12.04.2025\)](#)

Chair Erickson noted that final edits were made to the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan, included in the agenda packet, and reviewed by the Riverwalk Planning, Design and Construction (PDC) Committee in detail over the past four months.

The document will be updated periodically by the Riverwalk Commission to determine if any projects, cost estimates, timing and graphics should be revised. The most recent updates to the document include: 1) updating the status of completed projects; 2) refining the scope of various upcoming projects to reflect updated information and public or Riverwalk Commission input; 3) adjusting cost estimates based on current market conditions or scope changes; 4) updating the introduction, photos, graphics and miscellaneous text; 5) adding Eagle Street South Bank Improvements; and 6) removing the Artist's Overlook project based on concerns about project benefits and feasibility.

Peterson will revise the cover page of the document to reflect the effective date of the update as December 10, 2025.

A motion to approve the updates to the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan was made by Commissioner Shields and seconded by Commissioner Sullivan. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 13 - Brauer, Cowen, Cuff, Erickson, Holzhauer, Hynes, Michael, Picco, Ruffing, Sagen, Shields, Sullivan, Wohlt

2. Eagle Street Banner Poles - Jan Erickson

Approve the recommendation to remove two of the three banner poles along Eagle Street and potentially relocate in the South Extension

Chair Erickson deferred to Commissioner Picco who discussed the three banner poles along Eagle Street previously noted during the Asset Management Plan (AMP) Walk and discussed at last week's PDC Committee meeting. A nearby maple tree continues to grow into one of the poles and the other sits very close to the Plow statue. The PDC Committee agreed with Commissioner Picco's recommendation to remove two of the poles and utilize them in the South Gateway project. Commissioner Picco noted that the two poles would remain until they could be utilized elsewhere. Commissioner Sagen inquired about the availability of the mast arm banner poles with Picco noting they were custom made and the company may no longer be in business. Commissioner Sullivan advised he could provide contact information for a banner pole company, if needed.

A motion to approve the recommendation to remove two of the three banner poles along Eagle Street for potential relocation in the South Extension was made by Cowen and seconded by Wohlt. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 13 - Brauer, Cowen, Cuff, Erickson, Holzhauer, Hynes, Michael, Picco, Ruffing, Sagen, Shields, Sullivan, Wohlt

G. REPORTS:

1. Approval of Minutes - Jan Erickson

Approve minutes from the October 8, 2025 Riverwalk Commission meeting

Attachments: [25RWCMinutes1008](#)

A motion to approve the October 8, 2025 Riverwalk Commission meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Picco and seconded by Commissioner Shields. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Brauer, Cowen, Cuff, Holzhauer, Hynes, Michael, Picco, Ruffing, Sagen, Shields, Wohlt

Abstain: 2 - Erickson and Sullivan

2. Chair - Jan Erickson

Chair Erickson noted Commissioner Cuff's last meeting as Riverwalk Commissioner and thanked him for his valuable service. He was presented with a gift of appreciation from the group. Jeff Martin, Vice President of the Naperville Riverwalk Foundation Board will be the Foundation's designee as Riverwalk Commissioner, effective January 1, 2026.

3. Park District - Tiffani Picco

Receive the monthly Park District report

Attachments: [25ParkDistrictMemo1210](#)

Commissioner Picco reported on the following highlights from the Park District report included in the agenda packet.

The Horse Trough and Dandelion Fountains were winterized. A separate contractor was hired to winterize the fountain in Fredenhagen Park.

Staff supported the Healing Field of Honor on Rotary Hill. Chair Erickson thanked Commissioner Picco and the Park District staff for their efforts with this important event.

Suggestions were discussed to tie in an event when the Exchange Club Memories Fountain in Fredenhagen Park is turned on in spring.

Discussion followed on the snow build-up that occurred on the east extension of the Riverwalk by a contractor plowing a nearby lot last month. Park District staff removed the snow and have been keeping an eye on the area. Councilman Holzhauer noted he could contact the property owner should this become an issue again.

Motta noted the gravel trail replacement to pavers in Sindt Woods that was discussed at last week's PDC Committee meeting. Discussion on the availability of the Stockholm (wavy) paver followed with it being noted that the mold for the Stockholm paver is no longer available. Councilman Holzhauer inquired about what pavers would be used for the South Extension and 430 South Washington Street projects with Peterson advising they would be using the Hollandstone 4" x 8" paver in a herringbone pattern. Ball noted that the Il Campo pavers would be used in the plaza areas, similar to what is used in the Youth Plaza area of the Riverwalk.

Discussion followed on the preference to use a wavy style paver, the history of the Stockholm paver which is no longer available, and manufacturing, size and cost issues with having it or something similar created. It was noted that the Riverwalk Commission approved using the 4" x 8" paver in a herringbone pattern and the Il Campo style paver in plaza areas for all future Riverwalk enhancements at their June 11, 2025 meeting. Councilman Holzhauser suggested including City leaders in a future discussion with the manufacturer. It was also suggested that Commission representatives and Riverwalk consultants be included. Chair Erickson will contact Mayor Wehrli regarding scheduling a meeting.

4. Riverwalk Foundation - John Cuff

Commissioner Cuff had no report. He discussed his history with the Naperville Riverwalk Foundation and expressed his gratitude to the Riverwalk Commission. He introduced Jeff Martin as his replacement.

5. Riverwalk 2031 Fund - Grant Cowen

Commissioner Cowen discussed the Walgreens property being sold and the group reviewed the Main Street to Washington Street Riverwalk project in the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan. The Riverwalk 2031 Fund continues to work with their council of advisors and donor pyramid. Chair Erickson noted that the Grand Opening of the Eagle Street Gateway was very well attended.

6. Donor Recognition - Rebecca DeLarme

Receive the monthly Donor Recognition report

DeLarme reported that the Spring 2026 Legacy Gift order deadline is March 15, 2026, and currently consists of eight 4" x 8" commemorative bricks and seven 8" x 8" commemorative bricks.

The Fall 2025 order installation was held in Fredenhagen Park on Friday, November 21st with the donors and Park District staff.

7. Planning, Design and Construction - Johnna Shields

Receive the December 2, 2025 Riverwalk Planning, Design and Construction Committee draft meeting minutes

Attachments: [25PDCMinutes1202Draft](#)

Commissioner Shields noted the draft Planning, Design and Construction (PDC) Committee meeting minutes included with the agenda packet. She thanked the group for their efforts with the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan update and Commissioner Cuff for his service to the Naperville Riverwalk.

H. MEETING SCHEDULE:

Riverwalk Commission, January 14, 2026, 7:30 a.m.
Municipal Center Meeting Room C, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

Riverwalk Planning, Design & Construction, February 3, 2026, 7:30 a.m.
Municipal Center Meeting Room C, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

Riverwalk Commission, February 11, 2026, 7:30 a.m.
Municipal Center Meeting Room C, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

I. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Shields and seconded by Commissioner Cuff. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 a.m. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY by voice vote.

/S/ Rebecca DeLarme
Rebecca DeLarme
Program Assistant
Transportation, Engineering and Development Business Group