



## Rockport Parks and Beautification Committee

207-236-9648 101 Main Street Rockport, Maine 04856

### **Minutes December 15, 2021 Rockport Public Library—5 PM**

In attendance: Haunani Wallace, Doug Cole, Paula Coyne, Marilyn McWilliams, Eric Winters, Denise Munger, and Jan Baldwin

#### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the October 20, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved after adding the name of Will Gartley as someone with whom Doug consulted on the slope project. The minutes of the November 17, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved with the correct spelling of Bill Frohlich's name.

#### **BENCH DONATION POLICY**

Haunani asked us to consider possible ways to reduce the cost of the donation to encourage more participation. Paula shared her thoughts on drafting the bench policy. Doug explained that originally we charged twice the cost of the bench, but now the charge is the flat cost of the bench. We agreed that the renewal charge of a bench would be the same amount as the original donation. This committee will retain the final right to choose the location and usage of the donated benches, after discussing with the donors. Our committee also has final say on handling of damaged benches. Doug encouraged us to do more marketing of the benches. Suggestions of the committee were: put an ad in obituary page of newspaper, discuss with funeral home owners, aggressively contact specific individuals, use the term *legacy* rather than *memorial*. Also put ads in Town website and in Rockport Resource newsletter, Facebook, harbor and Opera House kiosks, and at our library. We could solicit businesses to sponsor a bench. Marilyn and Paula will work on ads and mailings. We feel Brandy Hare of DPW could keep the records on these donations with the approval of Jon Duke. Denise will speak to Jon about this suggestion. Paula will make changes to the draft policy, for approval at the next meeting.

#### **BUDGET/FIVE YEAR PLAN**

Haunani is working on the budget. She will include what has been started (FY2021-2022) and then move forward. She will design a new template and send us all a new draft of the 5 year budget. The committee discussed each year through FY2026-2027, making adjustments to budget amounts as we saw fit, adjusting timing of some projects, etc. Special considerations are establishing a rotating sculpture program, plantings and beautifications around town, dealing with the high sidewalk, addition of benches and tables in parks, new signage, playground equipment, possibly a giant adirondak chair at Marine Park, Cramer park improvement, etc.

**DPW REPORT**

Mike Young was not present, so it was tabled until January 2022 meeting.

**LIBRARY BOULDER SLOPE**

Doug reported that the plan was approved by the Select Board. Work will begin in March.

**PARKS BENEFACTOR PROGRAM**

Tabled until January 2022 meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Bill Frohlich's letter re Walker Park will be submitted to the Rockport Resource newsletter. Bill also asked about additional costs for the redesign of Mary Lea Park and adding more trees. We have put a placeholder of \$10,000 until we know the cost and the portion that developer will contribute to project. Bill suggested installation of a gigantic chair for kids. Some type of climbing equipment for kids in Harbor Park might be nice.

Denise said there's some interest in live streaming our meetings, but the committee said we do not wish to move our location

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 5:00 pm at the Rockport Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Baldwin