

**City of Keene**  
**New Hampshire**

**ASHUELOT RIVER PARK ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA**

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 8:00 AM

Room 22 Upstairs, Recreation Center

- This meeting will be conducted in person and by using the online meeting platform, Zoom. The public may view the meeting online at [www.zoom.com](http://www.zoom.com) and click on “Join A Meeting” enter Meeting ID 819 7366 0123
- To listen to the meeting, please dial (646) 876-9923 and when prompted enter Meeting ID 819 7366 0123
- If you encounter issues accessing this meeting, please call (603) 757-1835 during the meeting

Members:

Arthur Winsor, Chair  
Judy Sadoski  
Paul Bocko  
Suzy Krautmann  
Ruzzel Zullo  
Dian Mathews  
Thomas Haynes, Alternate

Staff:

Andy Bohannon, PRF Director

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Acceptance of November 9, 2021 Minutes
3. Finance Report
4. Report from Friends of Ashuelot River Park Arboretum
5. Park Discussion – Master Plan Implementation
  - a. Leaf Collection
  - b. Public Art
  - c. JD Trail Entrance
6. New, Other Business
7. Adjourn – Next Meeting Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 8:00 AM



31 Ms. Mathews reported that they recently had 13 volunteers show up to help at the park, including  
32 5 from Old Homestead Garden Club, and the other 8 being a mix of the Friends and some  
33 volunteers they gained at Art in the Park. They had leaves blown onto the beds and planted over  
34 200 native bulbs. Ms. Mathews noted that the bill was a bit more than anticipated and totaled  
35 \$208 with shipping.

36  
37 She went on to state that they have decided to hold off on cleaning the shed, noting that the  
38 group is feeling tired after a busy season of work. They will next focus on their winter meeting  
39 plans which include making a volunteer list, creating a work calendar, continued work on a  
40 cobblestone spreadsheet, and mapping out plantings of 2021. Additionally, they plan to form 2  
41 committees based off the recommendation of Mike Kelly from the Cooperative Extension office,  
42 a committee for invasives and a committee for 2022 plantings. Ms. Mathews stated they will also  
43 work to plan events such as the May migration bird walk with Steve LaMonde.

44  
45 Ms. Mathews stated that she had been collecting native seeds in jugs to overwinter and plant in  
46 the park, which will save money.

47  
48 Lastly, she reported that the Bartlett Tree tags can be located away from the trees so that people  
49 do not step on plantings. Mr. Bohannon stated he will look into this with the help of the Friends.

50

51 **5) Park Discussion – Master Plan Implementation**

52 **A) Leaf Collection** – Mr. Bohannon reported that he discussed leaf collection with  
53 Mr. Sweeney. The plan is for his crew to hold the leaves, mix them with dirt and have a  
54 pile ready in the spring for everyone to spread into the beds.

55  
56 **B) Public Art** – Chair Winsor reported that Ms. Krautmann had some ideas with  
57 regards to public art and invited her to share. Ms. Krautmann stated she spoke with a  
58 teacher at Franklin School who had the idea of garden stacks. The project would require  
59 purchasing a special type of clay that is weather resistant and the teacher would then have  
60 each class participate in making the stacks. Each ball could be a different size and theme  
61 and Ms. Krautmann showed examples to the board. She continued to state that it would  
62 cost approximately \$32 for a bag of clay and there are 12 classes who would each need a  
63 bag, making it approximately \$400 total including glazing. Ms. Krautmann added that the  
64 stacks would be installed with rebar cement. Chair Winsor asked if \$500 would cover the  
65 need to make this project happen and Ms. Krautmann replied that it would.

66  
67 Ms. Krautmann then stated her second idea she got from a woman in Atlanta, Georgia  
68 who makes tiny doors and puts them in parks. She explained that the doors are 7 inches  
69 high and have themes, and proceeded to show a video explaining the process.

70  
71 Chair Winsor stated he liked the tiny door idea as well as the garden stacks but expressed  
72 some worry with regards to vandalism. Ms. Krautmann stated if vandalism did occur the

73 art could be taken down, repaired and then put back up. Chair Winsor added that they had  
74 some discretionary money they could potentially use to fund the garden stacks project.  
75

76 Ms. Mathews made a motion that the ARPAB use discretionary funds in the amount of  
77 \$500 for a nature stacks project. Mr. Zullo seconded the motion, which passed  
78 unanimously.  
79

80 Chair Winsor suggested Ms. Krautmann touch base with her teacher contact and work out  
81 the details with Mr. Bohannon. He recommended they do this project first and talk about  
82 the tiny doors a little further down the road.  
83

84 Ms. Krautmann asked if installation with rebar would be possible and Mr. Bohannon  
85 stated they could likely get the materials from Public Works. He added that he would  
86 touch base with Duncan Watson to coordinate that, but would need to know how much  
87 they'd need.  
88

89 Ms. Sadoski asked if there was any danger to using rebar in the parks. Chair Winsor  
90 stated that the original plant names on the ground were rebar but it was a good question  
91 to consider and explore further. Mr. Bocko stated placement could potentially minimize  
92 danger, suggesting they could create guidelines around the art placement. Mr. Bocko  
93 added that he'd be happy to help with the project and expressed his appreciation to Ms.  
94 Krautmann for bringing the idea to the board, noting that it is embedded into curriculum  
95 which makes it a strong move. Chair Winsor agreed, stating it will be great for the kids to  
96 be able to show parents, family and friends what they created in the park. Mr. Bohannon  
97 thanked Ms. Krautmann as well, adding that the City strives to do more public art, and to  
98 have students participate from their most diverse school (Franklin School) will be a great  
99 project.  
100

101 Steve Hooper thanked Mr. Bohannon, stating he has been very helpful with public art and  
102 mentioning the successful installation at the airport. He added that public art is a soothing  
103 thing for people and will be a great addition to Ashuelot Park.  
104

105 **C) JD Trail Entrance** – Mr. Bohannon reported that there was some  
106 miscommunication surrounding the kiosk design timing; however, Peter Poanessa will  
107 begin working on a design for them soon. As far as kiosk placement, he stated there's an  
108 area where the current JD trail sign is located, where there are brick pavers, and they'd  
109 like to extend the pavers and put a double kiosk there. The design he asked Mr. Poanessa  
110 for will be similar to that of the kiosk out front at the corner of Fuller Park, as well as the  
111 kiosk at the post office, which is the double version. It will hold maps and educational  
112 signage and have a nice arch on top, and possibly a bench.  
113

114 Chair Winsor inquired about a contractor for the drainage issue in that area and Mr.  
115 Bohannon stated he would get in touch with one now that the construction season is  
116 slowing down.

117  
118 Chair Winsor also asked about the benches near the pergola. Mr. Bohannon answered  
119 that those benches were supposed to be installed already and that he would follow up  
120 with Keene Monument to see why installation had not yet occurred.

121

122 **6) New, Other Business**

123

124 Mr. Haynes asked if anyone wanted to help pull or cut burning bush, stating that Bobby Williams  
125 from the Conservation Commission will be spearheading a group on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. He  
126 further explained that they will be meeting at the trail head of the bike path off of Eastern  
127 Avenue to look for and remove burning bush along the bike path.

128

129 **7) Adjourn – Next Meeting Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 8:00 AM**

130

131 There being no further business, Chair Winsor adjourned the meeting at 8:43 AM.

132

133 Respectfully submitted by,  
134 Nicole Cullinane, Minute Taker

135

136 Reviewed and edited by,  
137 Andy Bohannon, PRF Director

**Ashuelot River Park Advisory Board  
2021**

updated 11/29/21

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual To Date</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Landscaping	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Replanting Program			
shrubs	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 859.06	\$ 640.94
bulbs	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 208.18	\$ 1,291.82
invasives	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 99.00	\$ 1,401.00
Bartlett Tree - Pruning	\$ 3,185.00	\$ 5,625.00	\$ (2,440.00)
Miscellaneous (not contract)	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>\$ 9,685.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,791.24</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,893.76</u></b>

Bartlett Tree - soil treatment	June		\$ 1,065.00
Buckthorn Bags	August		\$ 99.00
native plants pending receipts board approval	Sept meeting		\$ 859.06
Bartlett Tree - pruning ornamental underplanting		9/29/2021	\$ 1,375.00
Bartlett Tree - magnolia, katsura, kentucky coffee, english oak		9/29/2021	\$ 3,185.00
Bulbs - Dian reimbursement			\$ 208.18
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b><u>\$ 6,791.24</u></b>

