

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

**ASHUELOT RIVER PARK ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 8:15 AM  
Room 23 Upstairs, Recreation Center

**Members:**

Arthur Winsor, Chair  
Paul Bocko, Vice Chair  
Steve Hooper  
Ruzzel Zullo  
Suzy Krautmann  
Dian Mathews

**Staff:**

Andy Bohannon, City Deputy Manager

**Alternate:**

Thomas Haynes

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Approval of May 7, 2024 Minutes
3. Finance Report
4. Report from Friends of Ashuelot River Park Arboretum
5. Project Tracking
  - a. Bird Ecology Project
  - b. Potential Public Art Installation – Take Flight
  - c. Budget Development
  - d. Master Plan Implementation Discussion
6. Upcoming Events
  - a. Pollinator Palooza – June 25, 2024 from 11am-2pm
  - b. Art in the Park – August 31-Septemebr 1, 2024
  - c. Monadnock Conservancy Anniversary – October 5, 2024
7. New, Other Business
8. Adjourn – Next Meeting Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 8:15 AM

1 City of Keene  
2 New Hampshire

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4 ASHUELOT RIVER PARK ADVISORY BOARD  
5 MEETING MINUTES  
6  
7

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

8:00 AM

Room 22,  
Recreation Center

**Members Present:**

Arthur Winsor, Chair  
Paul Bocko, Vice Chair  
Stephen Hooper  
Ruzzel Zullo  
Suzanne Krautmann  
Thomas Haynes, Alternate

**Staff Present:**

Andy Bohannon, Director of Parks,  
Recreation & Facilities

**Members Not Present:**

Dian Mathews

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9 **1) Welcome and Call to Order**

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11 Chair Winsor called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

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13 **2) Approval of April 9, 2024 Minutes**

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15 Vice Chair Paul Bocko noted that on page 3, line 100, Kids to Parks Day should state that it is  
16 held on May 18, 2024. Suzanne Krautmann noted that the minutes stated her name is Susan  
17 instead of Suzanne. On line 28, Lee should be spelled Leigh and Cam should be spelled Kamm.  
18 With the aforementioned amendments, Ms. Krautmann motioned to approve the meeting minutes  
19 which was promptly seconded by Stephen Hooper. The motion passed unanimously.

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21 **3) Finance Report**

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23 Mr. Bohannon stated that the Trustees had approved the budget.

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25 **4) Report from the Friends of Ashuelot River Park Arboretum**

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27 Leslie Casey from the Friends was present at the meeting.

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29 She stated that the pruning demonstration went well. She said that a small group attended the  
30 demonstration which gave the demonstrator a better opportunity to walk around the park to do an  
31 assessment. Ms. Casey stated that there are a number of shrubs around the park that are in need  
32 of pruning.

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**5) Project Tracking**

**A. Public Art Installation**

Mr. Bohannon stated that the “Take Flight” sculpture had been scheduled to be move to the park sometime in June 2024. It will be placed towards the back of the park near the Jonathan Daniels Trail.

**B. Budget Development**

Mr. Bohannon stated that the budget development had been completed.

**C. Master Plan Implementation**

Chair Winsor stated that he spoke with Peter Poanessa regarding the timeline on the sign and Mr. Poanessa gave suggestions on the design. Chair Winsor would rework some components of the timeline and Vice Chair Bocko had completed a rewrite of the narrative. Chair Winsor stated that they would need photographs for the sign as well. Discussion ensued on whether or not they would put a land acknowledgement on the sign.

**D. Bird Ecology Project**

Jen Hlivko was present at the meeting to discuss the Bird Ecology Project she had been working on with Chair Winsor and Vice Chair Bocko. The goal of the project was to design educational tools to place in the outdoor learning lab area of the park. Ms. Hlivko stated that they made a trail map, designed two physical signs to place on each side of the footbridge to help encourage traffic to the other side of the bridge, and made a story map with audio recordings linked to QR Codes. Ms. Hlivko stated that she had decided on scarlet bee balm, elderberry, and lowbush blueberry as potential plants to place around the outdoor learning lab. She would like to put two to three small bird boxes in the park as well. Discussion ensued on the size of the bird boxes as well as potential materials that could be used to build them.

Ms. Krautmann suggested taking some of the book walk signs out of that area and moving them to another location. Mr. Bohannon stated they should work with the Keene Public Library on rearranging the book walk.

**6) Upcoming Events**

**A. Kids to Parks Day - May 18th, 2024**

76 Mr. Bohannon stated that Kids to Parks Day would be happening soon and they would have  
77 fun art-related events for the kids.

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79 **B. Pollinator Palooza - June 25, 2024 from 11 am-2pm**

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81 The Pollinator Palooza was expected to be a big event with around 30 tables with different  
82 vendors.

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84 **C. Art in the Park - August 31-Septemeber 1, 2024**

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86 **7) New/Other Business**

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88 Mr. Bohannon stated that he was working with the Monadnock Conservancy to have an event  
89 later in the fall.

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91 **8) Adjournment**

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93 There being no further business, Chair Winsor adjourned the meeting at 9:32 AM.

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95 Respectfully submitted by,  
96 Melissa Danneker, Minute Taker

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98 Reviewed and edited by,  
99 Andrew Bohannon, Deputy City Manager



To The Ashuelot Park Advisory Committee:

The Monadnock Conservancy is celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and to mark this achievement we are requesting the use of Ashuelot park on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, for our Annual Celebration.

The Annual Celebration is an opportunity for us to invite the community to a fun and family-friendly day of learning activities, demonstrations, food, music, and appreciation for conservation and the natural world.

This year, we anticipate offering a range of fun, nature-based educational activities, which may include presentations on the natural history of the Ashuelot River and interactive displays on how land conservation positively impacts our region. In addition, we plan to reveal our intention to build our headquarters on the plot of land adjacent to the Ashuelot River Park. We would welcome any input the City of Keene or Friends of Ashuelot Park may want to have during our event, to share more about the future extension of the park adjacent to our headquarters.

Typically, our event runs for three hours, and we anticipate this year's event would go from roughly 11am to 2pm. We are still in the early planning stages, and so should any of what we have outlined above pose a problem, please let us know. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to either of us. We welcome your feedback.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Tafias  
Development director  
Lindsay@monadnockconservancy.org

Martin Royle  
director of communications and marketing  
Martin@monadnockconservancy.org

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