

Morgantown Riverfront Revitalization Task Force

Meeting Notes

July 21, 2022

I. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Status of kayak rental facility – Emily stated that they are working with Adventure WV, WVU-affiliated group, which will run the facility. They are shooting for around Labor Day for a grand opening. It will be a 3-season operation, mostly, but there will be provisions made if someone wishes to rent off season.
- b. Westover bridge mural to be painted July 23-24 – Vincent said this is still scheduled and should be completed this weekend. He also noted there may be some interruption or slow down of trail traffic due to equipment, but it's very temporary.
- c. Update on Foundry Street connection – Ella stated that the Notice to Proceed from the WVDOH has been received. This grant includes signage and trail lighting. She had a meeting with City Engineers to get the project underway.
- d. Status of Caperton Trail Arch (removal) – Ella asked if the arch would be replaced immediately after being removed because the spot is popular for photos. Emily is going to seek more information.
- e. Status of proposal to remove/trim invasives along river – Emily confirmed that this work has been budgeted in this year's current FY budget under Urban Landscapes. Marchetta has reached out to AllStar Ecology, but they have not yet responded. There was then discussion about 'viewshed' and that several property owners have expressed that they want to be able to have a view of the river. It was agreed that property owners should be contacted in connection with employing Allstar to do the work. Jessica agreed to send an email to Allstar to make sure they were aware of the project. (Allstar subsequently responded and will be contacting Marchetta.)
- f. Update on mural on the back of Hugharts in Wharf – Ella reported that a mural is planned for the backside of Hugharts. The business owner is on board, and the artist will be Eddie Spaghetti. Funding for it is in the works.

II. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Review of progress
Jessica stated that, even though it seems the group discusses many of the same topics over and over, in looking back at the past 2 years, there really has been a lot of great progress.

She asked about paving a small connector from Mountaineer Heritage Park to rail trail this year. Emily stated that paving plans are typically finalized early in the year, so it may be either something for next year's paving project, or that Public Works has a small paver, and can pave alleys and small areas. Ella stated she would get with Drew Gatlin again soon to see how to best make this happen, as they've been working together to decide what trail sections to prioritize for paving.

Jessica stated that MUB received an EPA Clean-Up grant for the former Dinsmore Tire property, which is now owned by MUB. MUB may not plan to expand or use the entire property for many years, and it has potential for trailside/park amenities next to the rail-trail. It has easy access on and off the property to the trail and possibly to the river.

Mary Wimmer recounted a great meeting with the Army Corp last month and suggested that the trash behind the dam be an agenda item next time.

III. ADJOURN: 10:00 a.m.