



February 19, 2021  
11:00 AM

Board Meeting  
This meeting was held via Zoom

**Present:** Justin Nadeau, Susan Farrell, Elbert Watson, Stephanie Fitch, Hon. Jim Gulli, Hon. Anasha Cummings and Latasha Gardner.

**Absent:** Josh Chiappone

**Also in attendance:** Steven Strichman, Justin Miller Esq, MaryEllen Flores, Dylan Turek, Hannah Cedermark, Ken Crowe, Sharon Martin, Vic Christopher, Chris Babcock, Larry Regan and Denee Zeigler.

The board meeting was called to order at 10:52 a.m. immediately following the IDA board meeting. Mr. Strichman noted that this meeting is being held via conference call and online due to the Governor's Executive Order No. 202.1.

I. Minutes

The board reviewed the November 20, 2020 board meeting minutes.

**Stephanie Fitch made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2020 regular board meeting.  
Hon. Jim Gulli seconded the motion, motion carried.**

II. Riverwalk Trail Project - Update

Mr. Strichman explained that this project was previously approved to include a Riverwalk project in the amount of \$50,000 to look at different areas of the project and expanding to 123<sup>rd</sup> Street. He advised a proposal from Alta planning is included in the packet to do design for 111<sup>th</sup> Street to 123<sup>rd</sup> Street. Mr. Strichman advised there was a Lansingburgh Village Study done that suggested linking all the waterfront trails and parks along the river. He advised that he would like to allocate a portion of the funding to Alta Planning in order for them to come up with concepts and complete the preliminary work. Mr. Strichman noted that he will ask the IDA for construction funding as it is in proximity to two of their projects. He advised that this section is on the list to be paved in the upcoming round and he would like to have this underway before they start. Mr. Strichman advised that this was not in the original \$50,000 approved amount; we may have to revisit the total amount in a future meeting. Ms. Fitch asked about the traffic on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave in that

area. Mr. Strichman explained that it is a narrow road and is split up where half is southbound, and the other half is northbound in an attempt to deter speeding and it being used a way around traffic on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. He added that everyone parks on the street and does not want to take them away from residents. He advised that there is not a lot of traffic, but cars that do travel that street tend to speed. Ms. Fitch asked if this would be an area where we would include bike lanes on the road. Mr. Strichman advised yes, but that is where Alta Planning would be able to assist with creating a concept that will work best for everyone; bicycles, pedestrians and cars. Ms. Fitch noted concerns about Burdett Ave since putting in the bike lanes. Mr. Strichman noted her concerns and explained that this will be very different than the south troy portion. Ms. Fitch asked about the benefit of it on 1<sup>st</sup> ave. He advised that completing this trail will be another step in connecting with the Menands Bridge in order to have the trails go along the waterfront from end to end. Mr. Strichman advised it creates access to the riverfront, continues the trail and connects it to the Empire State Trail system. A bike-ped system throughout the city will make it safer to walk on that road. Ms. Fitch asked about the trail system in South Troy. He advised that cycle tracks are what were put in South Troy, but the focus here would be different. Mr. Strichman explained that creating this will help to reactivate some of the parks along the waterfront in Lansingburgh. He noted residents he spoke to were very excited to hear about this project. Mr. Strichman asked for an approval to hire Alta Planning in the amount of \$11,000 for conceptual design. He noted that they have worked on trails all over the country. Ms. Gardner asked about the time frame of the proposal and asked how long it would take to complete the existing conditions. He advised that he feels it could be done by the end of April and in time for the paving schedule. Ms. Gardner asked about the conceptual design and the involvement of city staff to finalize the engineering plans. She asked if the city has the capacity to see it through or if the cost will dramatically increase based on staffing shortage. Mr. Strichman advised he has spoken to the city engineer and he is aware of it. Mr. Cummings asked about the threshold would be to bid this. Mr. Strichman advised that two quotes are needed for professional services over \$15,000. Mr. Cummings noted this is below the threshold and feels that Alta Planning has done a lot of good work around the city. He added that now is a good time to continue to work on creating shovel ready projects and we may also want to think about the increasing use of electric vehicles. Ms. Dal Pos added that there were several discussions about dog parks over the years and thinks there is a real need that should be worked into future plans. Mr. Cummings asked if there is a broader redesign happening at the 123<sup>rd</sup> Street park. Mr. Strichman advised there was a concept drafted, but until the Price Chopper site gets redeveloped. He added it would tie right into this.

**Hon. Jim Gulli made the motion to approve the expenditure of \$11,000 to hire Alta Planning to do conceptual design for the Riverwalk project in Lansingburgh.**

**Susan Farrell seconded the motion.**

**Stephanie Fitch opposed; motion carried.**

### III. Board Member Evaluations and Fiduciary

Mr. Strichman asked that the board members take the time to complete the annual board member evaluations and fiduciary forms.

IV. Executive Director's Report

**Geotechnical** - Mr. Strichman advised the board that funds were expended behind 515 River Street to further design a portion of the Riverwalk trail.

**NIP** – The City Council is preparing a request for funding to be presented at the next board meeting.

V. Financials

Ms. Flores presented the statement of financial position. As of January 31, 2021 the total assets stand at \$570,295; all of which is in cash.

Ms. Flores advised the statement of activity for January shows \$222 deficit, with no income other than interest and no out of the ordinary expenses.

**Stephanie Fitch made a motion to approve financials as presented.  
Elbert Watson seconded the motion, motion carried.**

VI. New Business

No new business to discuss.

VII. Old Business

No old business to discuss.

VIII. Adjournment

With no other items to discuss, the regular board meeting of the CRC was adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

**Hon. Jim Gulli made a motion to adjourn the CRC regular board meeting at 11:16 a.m.  
Stephanie Fitch seconded the motion, motion carried.**