



Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee

Jack Mettee, chair
j.mettee@dover.nh.gov

Matthew Cox
m.cox@dover.nh.gov

Dana Lynch
d.lynch@dover.nh.gov

Thom Hindle
t.hindle@dover.nh.gov

Kimberly Schuman
k.schuman@dover.nh.gov

Sean Fitzgerald
s.fitzgerald@dover.nh.gov

Carla Goodknight
c.goodknight@dover.nh.gov

Brian Gottlob
b.gottlob@dover.nh.gov

Jack Buckley
j.buckley@dover.nh.gov

Dennis Ciotti
d.ciotti@dover.nh.gov

Norm Fracassa

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A Message from the Chair

Dear Friends of the Waterfront,

It has been several months since our last newsletter in July. During that time the Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee (the Committee) has been working diligently to come up with a plan of work and timetable with our design team - Union Studio. This firm will work with the City on the design, permitting and construction of the public infrastructure needed for private sector development of the waterfront site. These infrastructure projects will include shoreline stabilization, waterfront park design, extension of water and sewer and roadway construction. At its Oct. 21 meeting, the City Council approved the contract with Union Studio.



Jack Mettee

At our Nov. 16 meeting, the Committee heard from Crystal Kent who represents the Friends of the Earth, Sea and Space Center. This group is working toward locating an approximately 50,000 square foot center for integrated exploration of the earth, the sea and space in a portion of Maglaras Park. The group is currently fundraising to undertake a master plan for the project. More detail on this project can be found in the article below.

At this same meeting, we also had an update from Gary Bannon of the Recreation Department on the design and

n.fracassa@dover.nh.gov

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

J. Michael Joyal, Jr.
City Manager

Allan Krans
Dover Housing Authority
Executive Director

Karen Weston
Mayor

To contact the committee, or to share comments, visit our contact form on the project [website here](#).

Upcoming meetings:

Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee

- The next meeting of CWDAC has not been scheduled. Visit www.dover.nh.gov for an updated meeting calendar.

More Information

For more information about the Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee and development of the City's waterfront property, or to contact the committee, visit the City of Dover's [waterfront development page here](#).

construction of a docking and launch facility along the waterfront for paddle vessels - kayaks, canoes, racing shells, etc. This feature is to be integrated into the overall waterfront development. Through Gary's efforts the city has received a significant federal grant to design and construct this facility. More details can be found in the article below.

Our next step. We will be working directly with Union Studio to come up with the conceptual design and permitting for the waterfront parcel. Members of their team have already met with CWDAC members, city staff and waterfront stakeholders to kick off the project. We are working toward having initial design concepts completed for our Committee meeting in January 2016.

Thank you again for your support of our efforts to develop our historic waterfront. We would like to hear from you about any thoughts or ideas you may have about redevelopment of the waterfront. Please contact me or any of the Committee members via the e-mail addresses provided in the newsletter.

Your Chairman,



Jack Mettee

Earth, Sea & Space Center project moving forward

Crystal Kent, chair of the Friends of the Earth, Sea & Space Center updated CWDAC on the progress of its group to locate the center on city-owned land near Maglaras Park adjacent to the proposed Jenny Thompson Aquatic Center.

When completed, the Earth, Sea & Space Center will be a two-story building ranging from 45,000 to 55,000 square feet. It will feature world-class exhibits, large-scale aquariums, a theater, and programming, and will explore the relationship between terrestrial environments, marine environments, weather and climate. The group has worked closely with key departments from the University of New Hampshire and the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in planning the educational focus of the Center. The Friends believe such a Center will bring numerous educational and

CWDAC Mission Statement

" . . . [T]o provide a vibrant waterfront with public gathering places and access to the water, a place for people to live, meet, relax, encounter nature, conduct business and learn of Dover's past."

economic benefits to Dover, the region and the state overall.

Friends of the Earth, Sea & Space Center is a nonprofit organization working to develop a museum of earth, sea and space here in Dover. The group has completed geotechnical work on the proposed site and the preliminary findings look good for the site's buildability.



Kent also noted that the organization has engaged a fundraising professional to advise them on raising funds for the first phase of the project. This phase calls for completing a site-specific master plan, traffic study, permitting, hiring of contractors, scheduling plan, final architectural design of the building, final exhibit drawings, and a three-day citizens workshop. The organization is working to raise \$400,000 for this work.

For more information about the Center, please call (603) 436-7778 or visit www.earthseaspacemuseum.org.

Dover receives land and water conservation fund grant

Over the last year the Dover Recreation Department, in partnership with the University of New Hampshire Crew program and the Great Bay Rowing Club, developed a plan to create a community access dock on the Cochecho River. This dock would accommodate rowing and paddle sports enthusiasts in the community and allow for river access at all tides.

In the fall of 2014, the State of New Hampshire issued a request for applications for the federally funded Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program. The City of Dover submitted its application for the community dock in the Cochecho waterfront in January 2015.

The opportunity arose to apply for LWCF funding when the annual grant round was announced and the criteria for eligibility closely matched what the dock and support for which the facilities are intended. The NH Division of Parks and Recreation visited the site and reviewed the application and by March had tentatively approved the application. On Sept. 29, 2015, the federal government officially approved the project as well committing

\$150,000 to fund the dock construction.

This project will be integrated into the overall Cochecho Waterfront development process which includes the design and construction of a public park. This park will be the site of programs and activities including those that will use the future dock to gain access to the river for recreation purposes. Along with that park is the proposal to create related public amenities, potentially a boathouse, to enhance the activities that can occur on the waterfront.

One key element of the LWCF program is the perpetual designation of the park area designated and agreed to by the City and the State of New Hampshire and the protection of that park for future generations. Overall this grant award is an affirmation of the vision to develop the Cochecho Riverfront with public recreation and access to the river as a key element and priority.



Missed the meeting? Catch it here

The Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee last met on Monday, Nov. 16, 2015.

To view the meeting online, [click here](#).

The meeting agenda and minutes, once completed, can be [viewed here](#).



- In 1786, Dr. Ezra Green and others petitioned the town to appropriate some of the money from which Dover Landing lots were sold for purchase of a bell, inasmuch as Dover was the only shire town in the county and was in much need of a bell for its own accommodation and for that of the court when in session. The town voted in the negative.
- On Dec. 30, 1823, the Dover Bank, incorporated at the June session of the Legislature, this year, commenced business in its new building near Dover Landing.
- In 1837, it was reported that the number of arrivals of vessels in Boston from Dover during the year was 97, more than from any other place east of New York, except Portland.

Source: "Notable Events in the History of Dover, New Hampshire" by George Wadleigh

City of Dover, 288 Central Avenue, Dover, NH 03820

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