

VILLAGE OF DOBBS FERRY BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA

MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 14, 2021 AGENDA ITEM SECTION: PRESENTATION

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 1

AGENDA ITEM: PRESENTATION BY THE FRIENDS OF THE DOBBS FERRY WATERFRONT, INC.

ITEM BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. E-MAIL AND ATTACHMENTS DATED DECEMBER 8, 2021 FROM MARIE McKELLAR TO ELIZABETH DREAPER, RMC/VILLAGE CLERK FRIENDS OF THE DOBBS FERRY WATERFRONT PARK PRESENTATION TUESDAY DECEMBER 14 TO THE VILLAGE BOARD

1) Introduction by Marie McKellar-1.5 minutes-Introduction: Who the Friends are and what are our accomplishments.

Here is the link to Who We Are on the Friends' website: https://www.dfwaterfrontpark.org/who-we-are

The Accomplishments section of the Friends' website: https://www.dfwaterfrontpark.org/accomplishments

These 2 links accompany my introduction.



Marie's remarks 9-26-21.docx

2) Kathryn Slocum, Slide Presentation—2 minutes—The slide show documents our efforts to create Friends Meadow at Willow Point, planting pollinators and native plants that are environmentally appropriate and need little care when established. The photos show the volunteer efforts and the range of plantings.

Willow Point photo album: https://photos.app.goo.gl/jAPRA7PV9wT6p14d6

3) Jeanne Cronin Ceccolini will present the maintenance schedule—1.5 minutes. This is a summary of Wayne Cahilly's maintenance schedule for the DPW to follow. By following it, the Village will save time and money.



Maintenance Tasks,...e.docx

4) Final Remarks by Marie McKellar-1.5 minutes-The Friends and a great group of volunteers of all ages are working together and love it. We encourage others to join us. We are open to questions from the Board.

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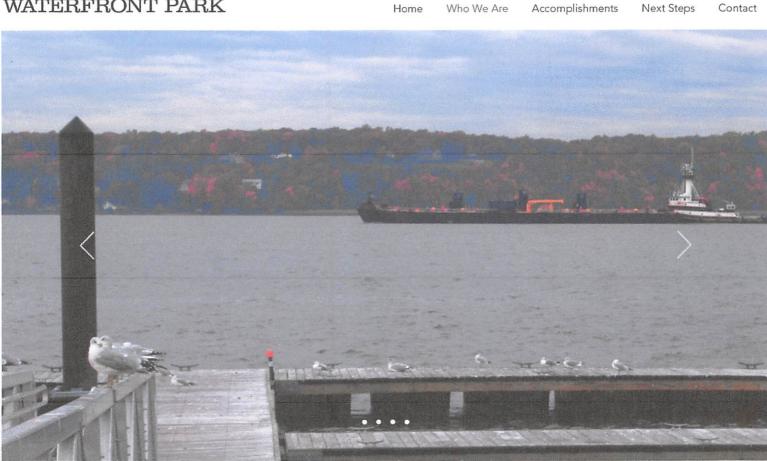
Good evening. My name is Marie McKellar. In 2008 a Waterfront Park Committee was formed under Steve Hunter as Chair. The park in 2008 had no walking trails, it was falling into the river. It is on landfill and if it fell in, we could not restore it, legally. The Committee met monthly for over 7 years. The park re-opened in 2015. The Friends of the Dobbs Ferry Waterfront Park was then formed as a 501c3 organization.

We have a terrific website: dfwaterfrontpark.org, thanks to Nancy Delmerico and Kathryn Slocum. The current Board members (Jeanne Cronin Ceccolini, Anthony Corradina, Nancy Delmerico, David Koenigsberg, Marie McKellar, Arch McKellar, Kathryn Slocum), Advisory Board members (Wayne Cahilly, Karen Jenkins, Elizabeth Martin, Susan Weisenberg, and Pia Young) and our Liaison Trustee Nicole Sullivan.

Our accomplishments include the planting of 8 new trees—including 5 in Willow Point—3 magnolias and 2 weeping willows. It costs between \$2000 and \$3000 to properly plant each tree at the Park. We arranged for the expert trimming of the park's older trees—that cost \$12,000. The Friends paid for all of this. We also hired arborists to create training videos. We maintain Willow Point and we work with Village personnel to maintain the rest of the park.

Now some of our Board members will describe the Friends Meadow—the Friends paid for everything. The labor is all volunteer.





Friends of Waterfront Park

Board Members: Jeanne Cronin Ceccolini Anthony Corradina Nancy Delmerico David Koenigsberg Marie McKellar Arch McKellar Kathryn Slocum Advisors: Wayne Cahilly Karen Jenkins Elizabeth Martin Susan Weisenberg Pia Young Liaison to the Village Board of Trustees: Trustee Nicole Sullivan

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Our Accomplishments

The Friends of the Dobbs Ferry Waterfront Park provides vital resources that keep the park green and beautiful. Some of our recent projects include:

- The Friends arranged for the planting of eight new trees at various park locations, all selected for appropriateness to climate and site,
- The Friends created "Friends Meadow" at Willow Point three beds featuring native and pollinator plants. They are maintained by volunteers. If you would like to volunteer with us, please leave us a <u>message</u>
- The Friends arranged for the expert trimming of the park's older trees.
- The Friends hired three experienced arborists and landscape designers to catalog the trees, provide suggestions for further plantings and work with Village personnel to maintain the trees.
- The Friends employed an arborist and videographer to create training videos on tree care for Village park staff. These videos are also useful for anyone with trees on their property. See the tree planting video <u>here</u>, along with links to additional videos on pruning.

An important aspect of our mission is to spot and report needed repairs and maintenance. At the Friends request, the Village:

- Removed unsightly dead tree stumps, which were also safety hazards.
- Mulched the playground base and trees
- Repaired the bricks and pavement at the boat dock and Comfort Station
- Fixed the broken park lights
- Cleans goose droppings off the walkways twice a week



FRIENDS OF WATERFRONT PARK

MAINTENANCE TASKS For the following four areas: (1) Willow Point; (2) Flagpole, Beach & Walkway; (3) Music Grove and Graduation Lawn; (4) Family Center

(Summary of maintenance tasks from Arborist Wayne Cahilly's Maintenance Report dated 4/2020)

Presented to the Dobbs Ferry Village Board, December 14, 2021

January – March 1

- Cut back grasses along pathways (with hand shears).
- Remove leaves from planting beds. Best to take one or two areas per week and remove leaves, fallen grass stems, and trash (will jump start the spring tasks).

March – April

- Edge all beds and tree circles.
- Weed all beds (best to pull weeds by hand not weed whack). (Note: The Friends will continue to weed/maintain the pollinator beds & memorial trees in Willow Point).
- Refresh mulch as needed.
- Clean-up of rip rapped Riverbank.
- Mowing begins.

May

- Weed established tree circles & flower beds and cultivate mulch.
- Plant new trees, watering well, and mulching immediately following planting.
- Mowing of lawns.
- Soil aeration using a commercial aerator.

June - September

- Weed all tree circles and cultivate mulch. Top off mulch if needed.
- Inspect all newly planted trees.
- Mowing, edging, and blowing continues.

October – November

- Final weeding of all tree circles & flower beds and cultivate mulch.
- Plant hardy shrubs and perennial flowers.
- Reseed lawns.
- Inspect all newly planted trees, remove Gator bags for winter, and check stakes/ties.
- Leaf removal begins mid-October and continues through November.

The Best Time to Plant a Tree was 20 Years Ago. The Second Best Time Is Now. CHINESE PROVERB



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Your Park Needs You.

But We Can't Do It Alone. You Can Make The Difference.

Hundreds of people enjoy Waterfront Park every week. *The Friends of the Dobbs Ferry Waterfront Park* is a nonprofit that supports park improvements and conservation. We work closely with the Village to fulfill this mission.

The Friends are raising funds to purchase and plant shade trees and enhance the park's flower beds. Won't you help us preserve our jewel along the Hudson?

Contribute at dfwaterfrontpark.org

Or mail check payable to The Friends of the Dobbs Ferry Waterfront Park, Inc. PO Box 543, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522 Donations are tax deductible.

Contact the Friends at dfwaterfrontpark@gmail.com We'd love to hear your ideas!