

River Access Committee

Minutes of the December 13, 2018 meeting. Executive Session

River Access Committee members in attendance: Chair Rob Phillips, Elisa Grammer and Barry LaCroix

Meeting commenced at 7:00 PM

Rob Phillips moved that the RAC go into executive session to discuss the acquisition of property. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The RAC discussed the opportunity presented by the Hufnagel property and noted that the property would

1. Provide an additional point to access the river thereby dispersing the impact on any access point;
2. Enable the Town to realize the recreational opportunities presented by additional river access and noted that communities across the Commonwealth were turning back to rivers. The RAC noted the work that Haverhill and Newburyport were focused on river access.
3. The property would help create a “river trail” that would allow canoers, kayakers, and water boarders travel to multiple properties along the river.
4. The RAC noted that the Hufnagel property had been used to access the river including by RAC members and noted it was one of the best places to access the river.
5. The RAC also noted that the Hufnagel property was adjacent to other “priority parcels” and could be part of a larger protected parcel for the Town but noted that the Open Space Committee would be in the best position to assess this particular opportunity.

The River Access Committee voted unanimously to authorize Chair Rob Phillips to sign a CPC application to request CPC funding of \$75,000 to fund the acquisition of the Hufnagel property.