

CITY OF WASHBURN
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NOTICE OF PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: October 20, 2020

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Washburn City Hall

This meeting may have members participating via tele or web conferencing. Public participants can listen to the proceedings on-line at this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87574368059> or by calling 888-788-0099 (Toll-free) and entering Meeting ID: 875 7436 8059. Limited seating will be available at the meeting and guests are asked to keep a six-foot distance from one another.

Agenda:

- Call to Order
- Approval of the September 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes
- Updates from Public Works Department
- Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan
- Update from Permitting of Commercial Usage in City Parks Working Group
- Discussion & Action of Inventorying City Parks
- Discussion & Action of StoryWalk Trail Concept
- Future Topics
- Adjournment

It is possible that members of, and possibly a quorum of, other governmental bodies including the Common Council of the City of Washburn are in attendance at the above meeting. No action will be taken by any governmental body other than the Parks Committee.

5:30 PM Via In-person at Thompson's West End Park

Members Present: Jamie Cook, Erika Lang, and Angel Croll

Municipal Personnel: Assistant City Administrator Tony Janisch

Absent: Jennifer Maziasz (council rep), Kyleleen Bartnick

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:43 pm by Janisch. 3 members present so there was a quorum.

Approval of the August 18, 2020 Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion made to approve minutes by Cook, second by Croll. Motion carried unanimously and minutes were approved.

Updates from Public Works Department

Janisch gave update.

- Funding for the baseball field fencing is secured; came from a private donor as well as City money through a property sale. An installer has been contacted, and installation will occur in late fall. Cook is coordinating the installation of the dugouts. The materials on on-site and they will be installed before the fencing. Washburn Ironworks donated sand for the in-field. Improvements have been made to the other fields as well.
- New rubber flooring is needed in the warming house/shed at the ice skating rink. The asphalt under the rink will be sealed this fall.
- It has come to the attention of the City that the tennis courts on East Third Street need some attention. The court surface needs to be evaluated for likely re-surfacing. Perhaps the Parks Committee should evaluate this park.
- The informational kiosk in Wikdal Park is finished.
- The City Council recently signed an agreement to do an updated comprehensive plan which will also include a recreation plan. The City's Plan Commission will lead the effort and the Parks Committee will also have a role, especially when it comes to the recreation plan.
- Now that fall is here, the campgrounds have some empty spaces in them. It was a good year for the campgrounds. The City is still cleaning the bathrooms twice/day and will do so through the rest of the year until when campgrounds close on October 15. The City hopes to still get some things done in the campgrounds before winter.
- Memorial Park now has a new road to provide better access for campers. 5 sites will have electric. The City is also evaluating the location of the potable water as some sites are not easy to get to.
- The West End Dock is still in progress.
- The commercial use permit that was issued to the kayak outfitter in the City has been revoked.

Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan

- Lang reported that she is working on the questionnaire that Wisconsin Coastal Management Program needs before releasing funds. Removal/control of invasive woody plants can occur into winter as long as temperatures remain favorable.
- A picnic table was replaced.
- The new access road to the lift station still needs to be stabilized.

- An interpretive sign for the entrance to the lakeshore parkway is part of the project that is being funded by Wisconsin Coastal Management Program. The Parks Committee will work on developing content and design over the winter.

Update from Permitting of Commercial Usage in City Parks Working Group

Cook, Croll, and Maziasz have been working on this with City staff and the Mayor. Thus far, they have discussed the extent of uses and looked at other cities for examples including details about what type of uses, fee scheduling, etc. The Working Group intends to come up with a draft ordinance by December and will present it to the Parks Committee. The goal is to be ready for winter.

Discussion & Action of Inventorying City Parks and Check List Walkthrough

The Parks Committee members and Janisch used the checklist to evaluate Thompson's West End Park. The following things were noted:

Playground:

- Surface needs to be relevelled and additional gravel is needed in some areas.
- The slide landing pad needs to be repaired/replaced.
- In various locations on the playground equipment, some screws and/or bolts need to be replaced or tightened. Some boards and posts need to be replaced as well.
- One of the willow tree's limbs is growing into the playground equipment and putting pressure on it causing some warping of the playground structure. It could be trimmed.
- The swings' pads need to be cut out and filled in with gravel.
- The box elder tree and willow tree both could be trimmed to improve access.
- The playground sign is old and could be replaced to convey updated information.

Pavilion/Picnic Shelter:

- There is a crack in the cement foundation, and could be sealed.
- The drip edge of the roof is holding moisture and wicking moisture up into the roofing material. The fascia board should be replaced and when installed, it should completely cover the drip edge.
- The picnic tables need to be painted/stained.
- While the volleyball court is in a soggy spot, it has adequate sand. The posts of the old volleyball court should be removed.
- The birdhouse structure needs to be moved and monitoring it for bird use might be a good idea.

Trees and Plant Material:

- We should add a question about the presence, density, and type of invasive plants.

Other Observations:

- Some of the signs could be put in more appropriate locations based on relevancy.

Future Topics

- Continue parks inventory/evaluation
- Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan
- Commercial Usage update
- Bayfield Street (Highway 13) update
- Recreation plan development

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

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City of Washburn
Park & Campground
Condition/Quality Inspection
Checklist



Park Facility:

Inspected by:

General Comments:

Date & Time:

Season:

Turf and Grounds

Absence of weeds in turf and surrounding grounds (mulch beds, playground, courts, etc.)

Yes No N/A

Turf is in good condition (no excessive wear, brown spots, wet spots, no scalping, no ruts, etc.)

Yes No N/A

Turf is properly maintained (grass is cut, has been edged recently, and is trimmed along fence lines, curbs and trees)

Yes No N/A

Turf is clean and free of debris (no trash, pine needles, leaves, or other debris)

Yes No N/A

Mulch/Planter beds are properly maintained and in good condition (bed is mulched, no excessive pruning needs, no dead plant material, washout, or excessive weeds, etc.)

Yes No N/A

Park Facilities

Shelters: _____ # Picnic Tables: _____ # Grills: _____

Shelter is clean and free of debris (no trash or graffiti, no tape or streamers)

Yes No N/A

Shelter is properly maintained and in good condition (no excessive wear and tear, paint is in good condition, no obvious damage)

Yes No N/A

Benches and Tables are properly maintained and in good condition

Yes No N/A

Restrooms are clean and stocked

Yes No N/A

Restrooms are properly maintained and in good condition (no excessive vandalism, graffiti, or damage to the vault or toilet)

Yes No N/A

Courts are clean and free of debris (no pine needles or leaves, no trash)

Yes No N/A

Courts are properly maintained and in good condition (nets and straps are in good condition, court surface has no excessive cracks or wear, etc.)

Yes No N/A

Campground amenities are properly maintained and in good condition (camping pads, tables, fire rings, electric & cable pedestals, etc.)

Yes No N/A

Other park amenities are properly maintained and in good condition (drinking fountains, fences, signs, trash cans, BBQs, etc.)

Yes No N/A

Trees and Plant Material

Trees are properly maintained and healthy (no excessive damage, brown or brittle leaves, no signs obvious signs of disease or poor health, no suckers)

Yes No N/A

Shrubs and other plant material is properly maintained and healthy (no excessive damage, brown or brittle leaves, no signs obvious signs of disease or poor health)

Yes No N/A

No excessive need for pruning, clearing, or removal of dead plant material

Yes No N/A

Irrigation / Drainage

Absence of obvious damage or leaking throughout the park (No flooding, pooling, or excessive water accumulation in the turf or surrounding grounds)

Yes No N/A

Irrigation system is properly maintained and is providing good coverage (No dry spots, rings around heads, signs of "slow turn" or "no turn" irrigation heads, or excessively wet sidewalks or streets)

Yes No N/A

Volunteer Opportunities

Any other relevant comments

Yes No

Signature:

2

Storywalk Frames and Bases

Durable frames and bases designed to display published storybook pages.

Story-walk frames and bases provide an opportunity for children of all ages to enjoy reading a story while outdoors. Pages from a children's storybook are laminated and installed along a path, such as in a garden or other environmental setting. This creative concept works to enhance the outdoor experience. Story-walk frames are designed to accommodate typical sizes of published books. You simply insert your own laminated pages in the frames. Pedestal posts and sleeves for wood posts are both available. When it's time to change or update the story, the laminated pages are easily switched.



What is a StoryWalk®?

In a nutshell, a StoryWalk® is a book that has been dismembered, laminated and presented page by page on a trail, bike path, or in store windows to promote reading and exercise. StoryWalks® were created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.

Is that Legal?

According to Grace Greene the head of the Children's Library Services for the State of Vermont "By purchasing a book, you can do whatever you want with it." The pages **have** to be the original pages of the book. **No photocopies!!**

Registered Trademark

The name StoryWalk® is a registered trademark. Any libraries using a StoryWalk® must include ® symbol and include the following statement in all promotion of the project: "The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library."

Helpful Websites:

- FAQs from the Kellogg Hubbard Library
 - <http://www.kellogghubbard.org/storywalk>
- Boston Children's Museum on StoryWalk® and Literacy
 - http://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/rttt/storywalk/storywalk_v3web.pdf
- StoryWalk® PowerPoint
 - http://www.pjlibrary.org/uploadDocs/2/StoryWalk-PowerPoint_ABergman.pdf

Interested in Creating Your Own StoryWalk™?

The StoryWalk™ Project FAQ

Here are some frequently asked questions and answers about the process of creating your own StoryWalk™ adapted from the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition's website, www.vtbikeped.org.

What is required of me if I would like to offer StoryWalk™ in my community?

Please use the name StoryWalk™ and include the following statement in all promotion of the project: *The StoryWalk™ Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition (VBPC) and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.*

What are some examples of the costs involved?

If you want to create a StoryWalk™ yourself, here are the approximate costs for the way the VBPC makes them:

- 3 copies of each book (2 for mounting, one for damage repair/replacement); books cost between \$7 and \$17 each so that can range from \$25 to \$50.
- Lamination costs about \$1 per page for 5 ml - a range of \$25 to \$40, for 10 ml – a range of \$40 - \$80 for each book depending on its length.
- Stakes (good ones that don't splinter, aren't heavy, won't break easily) cost close to \$1 each - most books need about 30.
- Sticky backed industrial strength Velcro to hold the books onto the stakes cost about \$15 that will accommodate a 30 page book.
- Not including tape and staples (if not using Velcro), and labor (which is the most costly) to assemble and mount the books, costs run about \$100 - \$150 per book.

What basics should I know about preparing the books?

In general, use 10 ml lamination sheets and reinforce the staple path with fiber tape, (or use Velcro) and use four foot mahogany stakes, (they are stronger and lighter than pine). Each page is mounted on card stock with the page number and contact info on the back of each page.

What about copyright laws?

The books cannot be altered in any way and the pages cannot be scanned or reproduced without permission from the publisher. They *can* be mounted on card stock and laminated. It's good practice to make a point of purchasing new books, not taking donations or buying used books, in order for the writers and illustrators to get full benefit. Try to buy your supplies from local businesses as a great way to support your community.

How do you select a book for The StoryWalk™ Project?

Selection of books focuses on minimal text, finding illustrations that don't cross the center of the book, and have a great story line. Smaller books work best for this project. Look for books that can be used in different seasons and that incorporate movement of some kind. Below you will find some examples of books that have worked well for the VBPC. *You might also check out the Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Book lists included in this toolkit for some great 5-2-1-0 friendly stories! Our StoryWalk's have separate story-relevant "movement" cards e.g. hop like the frog in the story to the next page, that are placed throughout the StoryWalk to encourage children to exercise their bodies as well as their minds!*

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www.letsgo.org

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- **Gossie** by Olivia Dunrea
- **If You Give a Pig a Pancake** by Laura Numeroff
- **The Dot** by Peter Reynolds
- **Leaves** by David Ezra Stein
- **Olivia** by Ian Falconer
- **A Hat for Minerva Louise** (with Spanish translation) by Janet Stoeke
- **Whoever You Are** by Mem Fox
- **Sheep Take a Hike** by Nancy Shaw
- **Rail Trail Alphabet Adventures** by Carolyn Siccama
- **South** by Patrick McDonnell
- **Over in The Meadow** Illustrations by Ezra Jack Keats
- **Corduroy** by Dan Freeman
- **I Took My Frog to the Library** by Eric Kimmel
- **A House for Hermit Crab** by Eric Carle
- **Tracks in the Snow** by Wong Herbert Yee

How far apart do you space the pages?

That depends on the length of the route available, the number of forks or intersections it has and the number of pages in the book. Make sure that the readers know where to find the following page, it is best if the next page can be seen. About 40 paces or so seems like a good distance between pages. The VBPC has found that a half-mile total distance works well for small children.

What suggestions do you have for someone interested in creating The StoryWalk™ Project in his or her town?

Start by finding some other like-minded people to work with on this project. The VBPC work well as a team and offer different perspectives and experiences. This project combines the benefits of physical activity, time outdoors in nature, literacy, and family time. Because of that, many community partners are interested in it and it lends itself well to funding from different sources. Try to involve other members of the community in the project in different ways; it lends itself to creative adaptations. Here are some ways the VBPC worked with their community: a senior center group translated a book into French, a high school Spanish class translated one as well, and a children's nature center was inspired to write and illustrate their own books. The possibilities are endless!

For more information on the StoryWalk™ Project and creating your own StoryWalk™, contact Anne Ferguson at storywalkvt@yahoo.com, Nancy Schulz at nancy@vtbikeped.org, or Rachel Senechal at rysenechal@kellogghubbard.org. For more information on borrowing a StoryWalk™ contact the Let's Go! Home Office at info@letsgo.org or at 207.662.3734.

Adapted from **The StoryWalk™ Project FAQ** found at http://www.vtbikeped.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=83:the-storywalk-project-faq-&catid=17:current-from-the-coalition&Itemid=89



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**A YEAR OF BOOKS TO CONSIDER
FOR STORYWALK®**

The Hallelujah Flight

Written by Phil Bildner and illustrated by John Holyfield

Based on a true story from 1932, James Banning is the first African American to complete a transcontinental flight.

Ron's Big Mission

Written by Rose Blue and Corrine J. Naden and illustrated by Don Tate

Astronaut Ron McNair lost his life in the Challenger Accident in 1986. This is a fictionalization of Ron's first big mission when, in a segregated South Carolina in the 1950s, he challenged the rule that only white people could check out books in his library.

These Hands

Written by Margaret H. Mason and illustrated by Floyd Cooper

Joseph's grandpa tells his grandson all the things his hands can do. However back in the 1950s and early 60s, the one thing his hands were not allowed to do was mix the bread dough in the Wonder Bread factory because the bosses said white people would not want to eat bread touched by these hands.

Underground

By Denise Fleming

Explore life under the ground you walk!

Isabella's Garden

Written by Glenda Millard and illustrated by Rebecca Cool

Told in the pattern of the rhyme, "The House That Jack Built," this story follows Isabella's garden, from its beginning with tiny seeds, as it flourishes throughout the year, and fades back in the winter, leaving only a handful of seeds, just enough for a garden to grow.

Whole World

Illustrated by Christopher Corr and recorded on compact disc by Fred Penner

This illustrated version of the song "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," features the relationship between people and the natural world.

Here Comes the Garbage Barge!

Written by Jonah Winter and illustrated by Red Nose Studio

In 1987 a barge departed from New York's Long Island in search of a place to dump its garbage. After 162 days and numerous unsuccessful and embarrassing attempts to unload, the garbage barge returned to New York. Its garbage was burned in New York's City of Brooklyn, and the ash was returned to its original home of Islip, Long Island, where it was buried. This is a mostly true account of what happened.

Our Tree Named Steve

Written by Alan Zweibel and illustrated by David Catrow

A family builds a house but saves one tree from being cut down. The tree, called Steve, becomes part of the family and is there for the many milestones in their lives.

All in a Day

Written by Cynthia Rylant and illustrated by Nikki McClure

Each day brings with it a whole new promise. As the story follows one boy throughout his day, the challenge is to live it well and make it count.

The Summer Visitors

By Karel Hayes

Follow a family to their summer cottage along the lake shore. A family of bears joins them, trying hard not to be detected.

The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred

Written by Samantha R. Vamos and illustrated by Rafael López

Another story written in the pattern of the rhyme, "The House That Jack Built," this bilingual offering follows the farm girl who makes "arroz con leche," translated from the Spanish as "rice pudding." The ingredients and the characters that bring them are given in Spanish with a glossary at the end of the book.

Leaves

By David Ezra Stein

Bear sees leaves falling from a tree and is puzzled. His first time view of what happens to the leaves throughout the year is a simple celebration of the seasons.

Leaf Man

By Lois Ehlert

A man made of leaves is carried away with the wind. Illustrations of leaves and other natural items found outdoors in the fall inspire children to make their own leaf art.

Bear Says Thanks

By Karma Wilson and illustrated by Jane Chapman

Bear, all alone and bored in his cave, decides to make a feast but his cupboards are bare. His friends come with food and remind him that, though he may not have food, he has stories to share. They are all thankful.

Stone Soup

Retold by Heather Forest and illustrated by Susan Gaber

As an easy-to-read-aloud and wonderfully illustrated version of the classic legend, "Stone Soup," this is perfect for celebrating the ideas of teamwork and sharing.

The Crossing

Written by Donna Jo Napoli and illustrated by Jim Madsen

Jean Baptiste, the Native American baby son wrapped on the back of his mother, Sacagawea, tells how his mother and father helped Meriwether Lewis and William Clark find a passage to the west coast in 1805.

New Old Shoes

Written by Charlotte Blessing and illustrated by Gary R. Phillips

In this story of giving, an American boy receives a new pair of red shoes. He runs, stomps and jumps in them. After a slight tear in the side of one, the shoes are sent to children in Africa. Once there, the shoes continue to be worn and played in, never wearing out.

Those Shoes

Written by Maribeth Boelts and illustrated by Noah Z. Jones

Jeremy learns that the good things he has – warm boots, a loving grandmother, and good friend -- are worth much more than the things he wants – a pair of those shoes that everyone in school seems to be wearing.

Prepared by Terry Rabideau, Children's Librarian, The Trove at The White Plains Public Library
NYLA Annual Conference, November 7 – 10, 2012, Saratoga Springs, NY
StoryWalk® Table Talk

What is required of me if I would like to offer StoryWalk® in my community?

Be sure to use the StoryWalk® Trademark and include the following statement in all promotion of the project: **The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.** This credit line must be displayed at the beginning of every StoryWalk®.

Please note: When the project is offered in the following counties in Pennsylvania: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland, the term "StoryWalk" can only be used by the Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children ("PAEYC"). You can hold the event, just call it something else.

What are the costs involved?

For Vermont communities who would like to borrow StoryWalk® books from us, the cost is free! If you want to create StoryWalk® books yourself, here are the costs: We purchase 3 copies of each book (2 for mounting, one for damage repair/replacement); books cost between \$7 and \$17 each so that can range from \$25 to \$50. Lamination costs about \$3 for 10 ml – a range of \$90 - \$100 for each book depending on its length. Stakes (good ones that don't splinter, aren't heavy, won't break easily) cost close to \$1 each - most books need about 30. Sticky backed industrial strength Velcro® to hold the books onto the stakes cost about \$35 that will accommodate a 30 page book. Not including tape and staples (if not using Velcro®), and labor (which is the most costly) to assemble and mount the books, costs run about \$200 - \$250 per book.

What basics should I know about preparing the books?

In general, we use 10 ml lamination sheets, reinforce the staple path with fiber tape, (or use Velcro®) and use four foot mahogany stakes, (they are stronger and lighter than pine). Each page is mounted on card stock; we put the page number and contact info on the back of each page. We staple gun the Velcro® to the stake. We have the lamination done by a copy center.

What about copyright laws?

We contacted the head of the Children's Library Services for the State of Vermont - Grace Greene - who told us that if we purchased the book, we could do what we wanted with it. **The books can not be altered in any way, the pages can not be scanned or reproduced**, only mount them on card stock and laminate each individual page. We make a point of purchasing new books not taking donations or buying used books so that the writers and illustrators get full benefit. We buy all our supplies (books, stakes, laminate, etc.) from local businesses.

As it turns out, comments from parents in the guest book have indicated that often they plan to purchase the book that they have seen at the StoryWalk® Project. The Kellogg-Hubbard Library also buys a copy of the books that we use if they do not already have them in their collection.

How do you select books for The StoryWalk® Project?

Selection of books focuses on minimal text, finding illustrations that don't cross the center of the book, and a great story line. Smaller books work best for this project. We look for books that can be used in different seasons and are nature-based. Always, it is a great story line that is the key to this project – we also consistently look for books with a message of kindness and caring.

How far apart did you space the pages?

That depends on the length of the route available, the number of forks or intersections it has and the number of pages in the book. Make sure that the readers know where to find the following page, it is best if the next page can be seen. About 40 paces or so seems like a good distance between pages. We have found that a half-mile total distance works well for small children.

How can you tell how many people have seen the StoryWalk®?

We place a guest book at the end of the StoryWalk® and ask readers to tell us the date, number in party, and any comments or suggestions that they have for the project.

How did you set up a guest/comment book to be protected against the elements?

We have placed a loose-leaf binder in a weatherproof box along with pencils (pens freeze and won't write on damp paper). The boxes are ones developed for real estate information with lids that can be mounted or attached to stakes.

What suggestions do you have for someone interested in creating The StoryWalk® Project in his or her town?

If you live in Vermont, you can borrow StoryWalk® books for up to two weeks, contact Anne to arrange this. All books are picked up and returned to the Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Montpelier.

If you don't live in Vermont or would like to create a StoryWalk® yourself, start by finding some other like-minded people in your community to work with on this project. We work well as a team and offer different perspectives and experiences. This project combines the benefits of physical activity, time outdoors in nature, literacy, and family time. Because of that, many community partners are interested in it and it lends itself well to funding from different sources.

Post StoryWalk® books on new trails and paths to draw people to walk there or introduce them to StoryWalk® by posting the books along popular routes. In winter, books can be posted in store windows where many people walk because the sidewalks aren't so slippery or outdoors along snowshoe trails.

Try to involve other members of the community in the project in different ways; it lends itself to creative adaptations. Our senior center group translated a book into French for us. We have had the high school Spanish class translate one for us as well. A children's nature center was inspired to write and illustrate their own books.

How can anyone help to support the StoryWalk® Project?

Thanks for asking! Donations are always welcome, we suggest a donation of \$25 for borrowing a book. All donations can be sent to the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition (see address below) – be sure to write "StoryWalk" on the memo line of the check. Thank you for your support!

If I have any other questions, how can I reach you?

Anne Ferguson **StoryWalk® Project Creator and Coordinator (Volunteer)**

storywalkvt@yahoo.com

Nancy Schulz **Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition**

PO Box 1234

Montpelier, VT 05601

(802) 225-8904

nancy@vtbikeped.org

Rachel Senechal **Kellogg-Hubbard Library**

135 Main St.

Montpelier, VT 05602

(802) 223-3338

rysenechal@kellogghubbard.org

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

The StoryWalk® Project –Books 2012

with # of pages and staple or Velcro®

“Gossie” (with French translation)	by Olivier Dunrea	31 p	Staple
“If You Give a Pig a Pancake”	by Laura Numeroff	29 p	Velcro®
“The Dot”	by Peter Reynolds	29 p	Velcro®
“Leaves”	by David Ezra Stein	32 p	Velcro®
“Weezer Changes the World”	by David McPhail	42 w/3?’s	Velcro®
“A Hat for Minerva Louise” (with Spanish translation)	by Janet Stoeke	23 p	Staple
“Whoever You Are”	by Mem Fox	23 p (2 pg per stake)	Staple
“Sheep Take a Hike”	by Nancy Shaw	27 p	Velcro®
“Rail Trail Alphabet Adventures”	by Carolyn Siccama	27 p	Staple
“South”	by Patrick McDonnell	43 p	Staple
“Over in The Meadow”	Illustrations by Ezra Jack Keats	21 p	Velcro®
“Corduroy”	by Dan Freeman	29 p	Velcro®
“I Took My Frog to the Library”	by Eric Kimmel	21 p	Velcro®
“A House for Hermit Crab”	by Eric Carle	28 p	Velcro®
“Tracks in the Snow”	by Wong Herbert Yee	29 p	Velcro®
“The Animals’ Winter Sleep”	by Lynda Graham-Barber	23 p	Velcro®
“Zoom”	by Istvan Banyai	32 p	Velcro®
“Guyku”	by Bob Raczka	39 p	Velcro®
“Dream Big starring Olivia”	by Ian Falconer	32 p	Velcro®
“Mary Had a Little Lamp”	by Jack Lechner	31 p	Velcro®
“Me.... Jane”	by Patrick McDonnell	38 p	Velcro®
“Chicken Thief”	by Beatrice Rodriguez	25 p	Velcro®
“Elusive Moose”	by Joan Gonnij and Clare Beaton	33 p	Velcro®
“Feeding the Sheep”	by Leda Schubert	25 p	Velcro®

“How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World” by Marjorie Priceman 31 p Velcro®
“We Went Looking” by Aileen Fisher 26 p Velcro®
“The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything” by Linda Williams 30 p Velcro®
“Dear Mr. Blueberry” by Simon James 26 p Velcro®
“Leon and Bob” by Simon James 25 p Velcro®

The StoryWalk® Project

Frequently Asked Questions

March 2015 update

What is required of me if I would like to offer StoryWalk® in my community?

Please use the StoryWalk® trademark and include the following statement in all promotion of the project: "The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration the Kellogg Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson."

All usage of the Storywalk® mark must comply with these guidelines, and must be limited to use in connection with educational, noncommercial projects consistent with the StoryWalk® Project mission to promote literacy.

Please note: *When the project is offered in the following counties in Pennsylvania: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland, the term "StoryWalk" can only be used by the Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children ("PAEYC"). You can hold the event, just call it something else.*

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For Vermont communities who would like to borrow StoryWalk® books from us, the cost is free! If you want to create StoryWalk® books yourself, here are the costs: We purchase 3 copies of each book (2 for mounting, one for damage repair/replacement); books cost between \$7 and \$17 each so that can range from \$25 to \$50. Lamination costs about \$3 for 10 ml – a range of \$90 - \$100 for each book depending on its length.

Stakes (good ones that don't splinter, aren't heavy, won't break easily) cost close to \$1 each - most books need about 30. Sticky-backed industrial strength Velcro® (to hold the pages onto the stakes) costs about \$35, for enough to accommodate a 30-page book.

Not including labor to assemble and mount the books, StoryWalk® costs run about \$200 - \$250 per book.

What basics should I know about preparing the books?

In general, we use 10 ml lamination pockets, Industrial Strength Sticky Back Velcro® (the lightweight indoor Velcro® isn't strong enough) and use four-foot mahogany stakes, (they are stronger and lighter than pine). Each page is mounted on card stock; we put the page number, book title and author, and contact info on the back of each page. We staple gun the Velcro® to the stake. We have the lamination done by a copy center.

I can't stress enough the importance of a wide margin of laminate around the edges of each page – this completely seals protects the page from moisture which will ruin the page.

What about copyright laws?

We contacted the head of the Children's Library Services for the State of Vermont - Grace Greene - who told us that if we purchased the book, we could do what we wanted with it. (Books are governed by the "first sale" doctrine.) The books cannot be altered in any way, and the pages cannot be scanned or reproduced. Simply mount them on card stock and laminate each individual page.

We make a point of purchasing new books not taking donations or buying used books so that the writers and illustrators get full benefit. We buy all our supplies (books, stakes, laminate, etc.) from local businesses.

As it turns out, comments from parents in the guest book have indicated that often they plan to purchase the book that they have seen at the StoryWalk® Project. The Kellogg-Hubbard Library also buys a copy of the books that we use if they do not already have them in their collection.

How do you select books for The StoryWalk® Project?

The ideal book has minimal text, illustrations that don't cross the center of the book, and a great story line. Smaller books work best for this project. We look for books that can be used in different seasons and are nature-based. Always, it is a great story line that is the key to this project – we also consistently look for books with a message of kindness and caring.

How far apart did you space the pages?

That depends on the length of the route available, the number of forks or intersections it has and the number of pages in the book. Make sure that the readers know where to find the following page, it is best if the next page can be seen. About 40 paces or so seems like a good distance between pages. We have found that a half-mile total distance works well for small children.

How can you tell how many people have seen the StoryWalk®?

We place a guest book at the end of the StoryWalk® and ask readers to tell us the date, number in party, and any comments or suggestions that they have for the project.

How did you set up a guest/comment book to be protected against the elements?

We have placed a loose-leaf binder in a weatherproof box along with pencils (pens freeze and won't write on damp paper). The boxes are ones developed for real estate information with lids that can be mounted or attached to stakes.

What suggestions do you have for someone interested in creating The StoryWalk® Project in his or her town?

If you live in Vermont, you can borrow StoryWalk® books for up to two weeks, contact Anne to arrange this. All books are picked up and returned to the Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Montpelier.

If you don't live in Vermont or would like to create a StoryWalk® yourself, start by finding some other like-minded people in your community to work with on this project. We work well as a team and offer different perspectives and experiences. This project combines the benefits of physical activity, time outdoors in nature, literacy, and family time. Because of that, many community partners are interested in it and it lends itself well to funding from different sources.

- Post StoryWalk® books on new trails and paths to draw people to walk there or introduce them to StoryWalk® by posting the books along popular routes.
- In winter, books can be posted in store windows where many people walk because the sidewalks aren't so slippery or outdoors along snowshoe trails.
- Try to involve other members of the community in the project in different ways; it lends itself to creative adaptations.
- Our senior center group translated a book into French for us. We have had the high school Spanish class translate one for us as well. A children's nature center was inspired to write and illustrate their own books.

How can anyone help to support the StoryWalk® Project?

Thanks for asking! Donations are always welcome. We suggest a donation of \$25 for borrowing a book. All donations can be sent to the Kellogg-Hubbard Library (see address below) – be sure to write "StoryWalk" on the memo line of the check. Thank you for your support!

If I have any other questions, how can I reach you?

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The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.