

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Lindsey Blank, Chair  
Catherine Strother, Secretary  
Ronna Stuller, Treasurer  
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Kevin Lester



### **Financial Report - FY2021**

#### **RIVERSIDE PARK CONSERVANCY**

**Beginning Balance 01/01/2021 \$13,227.73**

##### 2021 Income

Memberships & personal donations	\$1,605.00
Corporate contributions	33.37
Other fundraising/income	16.00
Grants, unrestricted	1,500.00
Grants, restricted	1,550.00

**Total Income \$ 4,704.37**

**Grants Receivable 3,340.00**

**Total Assets 12/31/2021 \$21,272.10**

##### 2021 Expenditures

Insurance	\$ 1,633.00
Projects & programs	4,972.71
Office expenses	199.16
Fundraising expenses	29.84

**Total 2021 Expenditures \$ 6,834.71**

**Ending Balance 12/31/2021 \$14,437.39**

#### **RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY GARDEN Dedicated savings account**

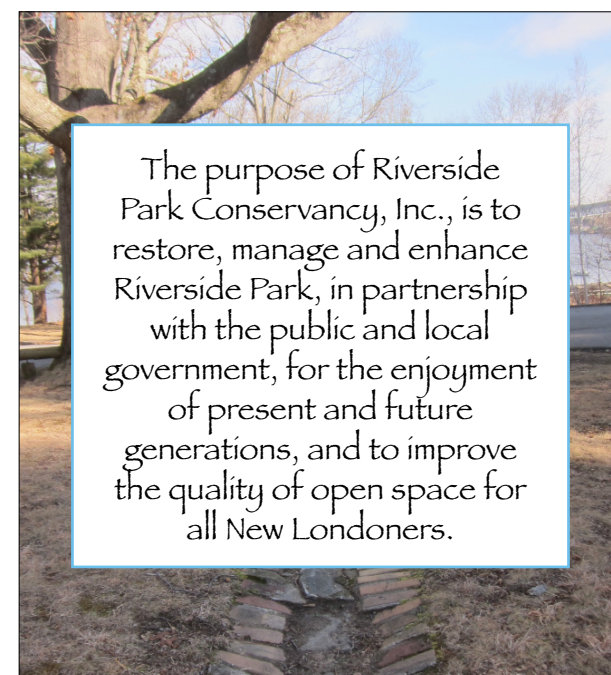
**Beginning Balance 01/01/2021 \$ 161.64**

2021 Income (rental fees/interest)	90.12
2021 Expenditures	0

**Ending Balance 12/31/2021 \$ 251.66**

**Riverside Park Conservancy**  
P.O. Box 1082  
New London, CT 06320

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2021**



The purpose of Riverside Park Conservancy, Inc., is to restore, manage and enhance Riverside Park, in partnership with the public and local government, for the enjoyment of present and future generations, and to improve the quality of open space for all New Londoners.

P.O. Box 1082  
New London, Connecticut  
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# A LOOK BACK AT 2021

## Projects

### Riverside Park Facility Improvement



In 2021, with the support of the Community Development Block Grant program, Riverside Park Conservancy purchased a kiosk to help park visitors navigate its complex road network and find activity areas. The kiosk was stained to match the gazebo in the nearby pine grove and installed by the Department of Public Works. The kiosk will have a park map permanently mounted on it as well as a message board for updated information about park programs and activities. The map design, in progress below, is anticipated to be completed and mounted under the kiosk's plexiglass frame by early spring 2022.



## The Continued Impact of COVID-19

As we were forced to do in 2020, Riverside Park Conservancy again had a limited schedule of planned events this past year due to the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in large social gatherings. Many of the activities we usually participate in – such as New London Neighbor Day and the Yale-Harvard Regatta – were canceled by their host organizations for 2021.

We did succeed in holding regular park clean-up and planting days, and have scheduled our first work day of the year on Saturday, April 20. We hope to bring back our Down by the Riverside Festival on Saturday, September 17. As a large, spread-out open space, Riverside Park remains an ideal location for passive recreation and small group activities.

Improvement of the park's facilities continues, and we hope you'll find time to visit!



### Riverside Community Garden

Although the impact of Covid on community gardening continued to be felt, the Riverside gardeners enjoyed berries, pears, and apples in our shared areas, and planted a variety of vegetables in their individual beds. We are hoping for a successful 2022 season and are starting to recruit new gardeners to join us this year.

Riverside Park Conservancy is a community-based non-profit organization and is not part of city government. Recognized as a public charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, contributions are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

## Partnerships

### Connecticut Forest & Park Association

On Saturday, June 5, Riverside Park Conservancy and the Connecticut College Arboretum participated in CT Trails Day Weekend by teaming up to host a walk in the 75-acre Bates Woods Park. In preparation for the Connecticut Forest & Park Association event, our two organizations hosted a big park clean-up, filling dozens of bags with trash and recyclables, and moving larger discarded items to the road for easy pick-up by NL Department of Public Works.



### Greening New London

As a partner in the New London Pollinator Pathway project, Riverside Park Conservancy continued to expand the pollinator-friendly plantings in the park. Thanks to a grant from New London Water Authority Community Fund, native perennials, grasses, and shrubs were planted along the park egress road from the parking areas to Stanners St. Additional plants have already been ordered to further expand the network of native plantings in Riverside Park.

