

PCAC Minutes of 10/27/17

Meeting called to order at 8:35am. Members in attendance included Jen Antonakakis-community alternate (arrived 8:59am), Andrea Benson (left at 9:45am), Melissa Gahr (left at 9:45am), Seth Hickey (left at 9:35am), Pamela Hollasch (arrived at 8:37am), Bettina Kersten and Jameson Paine (left at 9:43am). Additional attendees: John Corrigan, Safe Routes To School (SRTS) Coordinator, Mike Houghton-Stratham Selectman, Thomas Fosher-Stratham Memorial School (SMS) Principal, Sue Garneau-Teacher, Cooperative Middle School (CMS), Scott Bogle-Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC), Stephanie Bergeron-Stratham resident/SMS parent.

1. Presentation on the Safe Routes to School Program by John Corrigan, SFTS Coordinator, Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance, N.H. Department of Transportation. Goal is to enable children to walk/bicycle safely to school. Typically this works in a radius of 1 mile for walking & 2 miles for biking in grade K-12 (see attached doc for further details on presentation).
2. Discussion ensued amongst the attendees at-large with regards to the Safe Routes program goals, the funds still available and the relevance of the topic to SMS and CMS. Mr. Corrigan informed the group there are currently only funds remaining for start-up or travel plan grant applications (these offer federal funds without the requirement for local fund matching). He also explained the deadline is 12/01/17 for all such applications as the program will close permanently by Spring 2019. All engineering/infrastructure funds have currently been dispersed. This type of proposed work must be submitted in the future to the NH-DOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) operating under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST-ACT) which provides 80% Federal with a required 20% local funds. There will be a public notice in the near future calling for 2018 TAP grant applications.
3. Individuals present expressed an overall desire to return to their respective groups and discuss moving forward with participation in a task force. This task force would be composed of the individuals writing the grant and those responsible for overseeing the work if the grant is approved. This would culminate in a draft grant application for the Board of Selectman to review in advance of the 12/1/17 deadline.
4. There no longer being a quorum present, the remainder of the agenda items were tabled until the next meeting scheduled for 6:30pm on 11/14/17 & the committee meeting was adjourned at 9:46am.

Minutes draft respectfully submitted by Andrea M Benson, Secretary.

