

PCAC Meeting Minutes October 26, 2018

In attendance: Seth Hickey, Jennifer Antonakakis, Andy Gilman, Bettina Kersten, Jameson Paine, Pamela Hollasch, Paul Deschaine (Town Administrator, arrived 9:35a.m.)

AG called the meeting to order at 8:34a.m.

Motion to approve minutes by BK, seconded by JA, unanimous decision to accept minutes of 09/28/18 as drafted.

Master Plan Steering Committee public forum

- Of note to PCAC, common themes of connectivity and agri-tourism.
- BK suggested getting together with the Stratham farmers to discuss ideas; she will reach out to the Town for guidance on this.

Complete Streets conference

- The focus was on rural towns (like Stratham) that are seeing increase in population and, therefore, more car traffic. BK was inspired and found out how many resources are available such that we don't have to re-invent solutions. For example, the NHDOT created a chart of solutions for various problems observed in towns. A potential challenge is that Stratham does not officially support the Complete Streets model. That may change and also certain aspects can be implemented. By adopting policies such as these may lead to more grant opportunities from the state. This is where a pedestrian master plan may aid in these endeavors. General discussion about taking a master plan and translating that into implementation and action.
- Another plan through the NHDOT involves the restriping of "roads to allow for paved shoulders where none exist now...". This is of particular interest for Winnicut, Bunker Hill, and Route 108 which are coming up for restriping in the near future. JP suggested reaching out to Colin Lavery, Paul Deschaine, Tavis Austin as well as SH for liaising with DOT to make this happen.
- Future opportunity working with civil engineering students at UNH to create plans for specific projects such as between municipal center and the future Smyk Park.
- Agreement among group that the PCAC should continue to seek out local and regional contacts in order to educate ourselves and discover tools and resources.

Motion to ask CL, PD, TA, SH to request restriping by NHDOT by JP, seconded by BK, decision passed unanimously.

DOT Bike Signage

- BK reported this is moving forward with money obtained and as part of next year's budget

SRTS update

- The next step is TEC will create a list of projects and the committee will prioritize.
- HAWK light, at \$90,000, could be a great solution to safely cross Route 33 at/near the entrance to Stratham Hill Park. Option to put to town vote to fund or other options to pursue via SH in Epping and also asking TEC for potential funding sources.

Walk to School Day

- JA reported that approximately 70-100 children walked to school despite the rainy day.
- SH stated the fire department enjoyed being part of that as they are looking for ways to be involved in the community. We learned that they had reached out to SH and this could be a continued collaborative relationship.
- BK described the muddy area at the entrance to the SMS field and the possibility of filling in or building a bridge or other option; SH thinks this could be doable.

Community Outreach & Public Involvement

- PH to work with BK on large poster of survey "tidbits" to be ready for Election Day (11/6)
- Melissa Gahr will be asked to request, of the Board of Selectmen, a small table during the elections for PCAC.
- After 11/6, poster could potentially be displayed at the library.

Trail Map update

- SH added potential master map to online mapping tool which has now been updated. This provides a vision of connectivity for our town.
- BK suggested using social media to post pictures of various connection points throughout town such as cut-throughs between plazas, etc.

2019 Budget

- Request for \$24,000 → bicycle line striping and fog lines, Share the Road signs, chevron stencils and marking, traffic calming, publicity and outreach

America Walks Grant Application

- For \$1,500 and asking for signs in and around SHP to guide families to school.

Motion to apply for grant by JA, seconded by JP, decision passed unanimously.

- There is an Eagle Scout project involving signage on the mountain bike trails at the park so something to keep in mind and perhaps coordinate with.
- PD suggested consulting with Conservation Commission and the Parks Commission as some concern the park is becoming too urbanized with visual clutter.

Public Comment

- PD asked for clarity in SRTS documents about Right of Way designations.

The next meeting of the PCAC will be 8:30am on November 30, 2018 in the Municipal Center's Hutton Room.

There being no further items to discuss, BK made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by PH and unanimously agreed upon by the Committee members.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Hollasch
Acting Secretary