



COMMITTEE REPORT – Town of Rockport

COMMITTEE: Keep Rockport Beautiful

CHAIR: Douglas Cole

DATE: January 30, 2018

LOCATION: Richardson Room

IN ATTENDANCE: Stephen Smith, KRB - Maggie Timmerman, KRB - Douglas Cole, KRB - Sam Temple, Harbor - Allen Mitchell, CIP - Leni Gronros, Pathways - Doris Smart, Rockport Garden Club - Mike Young, DPW - Rick Bates, Town Manager - Mark Kelley, Select Board - Environmental Clean-up Crew: Anderson Richter, President – Sam Maltese, Vice-President – Sophie Ernst, Secretary.

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- 1) Cole made a presentation about problems that he believes involve:
 - poor communications
 - ill-defined roles and responsibilities.

These problems inhibit effective coordination between committees and Town Departments whose shared goals include keeping Rockport Beautiful

- 2) There is a lack of clarity on how records of meetings are kept and how they flow to the select board for review and action. Cole explained the Select Board liaison position and commented on what he believes to be the weaknesses of that system.
- 3) A template for committee reports was presented and most thought this could be a useful tool for communicating with the Select Board.
- 4) A brief demonstration of the Rockland “Report it Fix it” software program was made, and again, most people thought this would be a useful tool, both for citizens and the DPW.
- 5) Each representative then explained what resources their committee might bring to the process and what they saw as opportunities and barriers to working together.
- 6) Cole floated the idea of identifying the Route 17-90 intersection for a focused project this spring including “Welcome to Rockport” sign with planter and garden, clean up and weeding of the traffic islands, and some level of improvement to the dilapidated sidewalks.
- 7) Smith reminded the group that the exploratory KRB committee had developed a hierarchy of projects ranging from the very simple, couple of volunteers “Just do It” projects up to large projects requiring coordination of multiple committees and outside organizations such as Maine DOT. Timmerman also feels that there are many projects that can be handled with volunteer effort and coordination. DPW is always ready to assist as needed.



COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS/DECISIONS/NEXT STEPS:

- 1) Attendees will go back to their groups and make them aware of this effort to coordinate resources and efforts. They will also identify any projects that they would like to see accomplished this Spring/Summer
- 2) Cole will work with Town Manager to streamline and standardize committee reporting system
- 3) Department of Public Works will continue to explore acquiring and implementing a “Report it, Fix it” software program for the town.
- 4) Meet at least 1 more time in one month to see what people ideas, concerns, and thoughts are for moving forward.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday – March 6, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Rockport Town Office – Richardson Room