

Minutes  
Feb 3, 2021 – Zoom call  
6:00 pm

**Present:**

Heidi Baker, Rockport  
Margo Murphy – Rockport  
Richard Stetson – Camden  
Andrew Stancioff – Camden  
Helen Shaw – Rockport  
Lynda Clancy – Rockport  
Anita Brosius-Scott – Camden  
Geoff Scott – Camden  
Alison McKellar, Camden Select Board Liaison  
Jeff Hamilton – Rockport Select Board Liaison

**Absent:**

Jane Self – Camden, Alternate  
Robert Davis – Camden

**Jan Minutes** – Accepted as written

**Committee Members** – We need another Rockport member. Please keep this in mind and bring forward possible candidates.

**Maritime/Shirrtail Sidewalks** – easements related to the Shirrtail project have almost been finalized. Jeremy says that as soon as they are, the project will be turned over to MDOT to manage. That isn't far in the future. MDOT has been in the loop and is interested in getting both Maritime and Shirrtail sidewalks out to bid. Both towns still have money that were set aside in restricted funds a few years ago for the matching grant. The question is whether it will be enough once bids are received. No way to know that. We'll cross that bridge when we come to it.

**Riverwalk: Camden Wastewater Treatment Plant** – process has begun with Planning Board to put both parcels into same zone.

**Riverwalk: CRMS** – Geoff has a call scheduled with Maria Libby tomorrow. He will update her about the status of the Riverwalk and will ask her about how the final impervious surface % ended up at CRMS.

**River Restoration** – Alison and Geoff participated in the first informational meeting re river restoration – many stakeholders present. Discussed baseline and scenarios (what if questions). The group also discussed ideas for the best form/process of getting the public and stake holders engaged. Going forward there will be a series of open public meetings. As the engineers continue their base line research they will learn more. For example changing any of the dams could result in flooding in town. So we need to proceed with caution and good planning. As the design develops there might be opportunities for incorporating future Riverwalk construction into the planning. Funding for the grant came from NOAA and Natl Fish and Wildlife Fndn. Current funding will cover assessment. From assessment/baseline information the next step will be to

come up with viable projects that can be funded from other sources. Alison will continue to keep the Riverwalk part of the discussions.

**Route 90** – Margo, Lynda, Helen and Heidi met with Patrick Adams (MDOT) and Stephen Cole (MDOT Regional planner). At the end of that meeting they felt far more optimistic re possibilities. Patrick and Stephen were very constructive. No barriers to putting in a sidewalk/multi-use path, but some issues with crosswalks. Regardless, everything has to come out of planning and the community. There are grants available. The Planning Partnership Initiative – PPI – offers matching MDOT funds of \$25K to a max of \$50K. Planning would include feasibility study; possibly an island in front of high school; that could provide justification for a crosswalk, etc. A planning and feasibility study would help evaluate what would work, would also look at future, inter-trail connectivity. Planning study would also connect with Comp plan goals.

Will meet tomorrow with Bill Post and Deb Hall, to see if planning money for the Rte 90 corridor can be added in this year's budget. Margo and Jeff H will meet tomorrow if possible. Geoff thinks that Summit Engineering did \ a lot of initial planning work 15-18 years ago.  
**Action – Geoff** will find info and get it to folks.

**Bike Awareness** –shared the drafts of the copy for the website and for PR. We have permission to use the video done by the city of Ottawa re advisory lanes that was done by Ottawa. Instead of trying to edit video, vote was taken (unanimous) to simply credit the City of Ottawa and use the video as is.

Slap bracelets – Camden town office has them. Also available are reflective strips of tape. Geoff believes these came from MDOT, not BCM, but not positive. It was suggested that along with all of us carrying them in our cars to hand out, police should carry some; nurses at schools too.  
**Action - Lynda** will help distribute and explore getting some at the Rockport Town Office and the YMCA. Get them at Town office; they are there now.

**Work Plan for Rockport** – reviewed the 2-page draft. Clear condensed message re what things we're working on. Ran the chart by the committee. The Main St. sidewalk to Town Office is included under Sidewalk Bond related projects. Discussed the idea of adding an extension of the sidewalk along Rte 1 to Glen Cove. The issue has been raised before the Select Board – and is already identified on the Rockport Master Plan. The sewer planning forged ahead with no discussion re pathway planning. **Action – Lynda** to send Geoff the wording for including planning for a connector pathway on Route 1.

Currently Pathways related funding is included in the budget under cultural and recreation. Sidewalks and pathways should be part of infrastructure projects rather than parks and recreation project. Pathways are constructed to connect destinations, they are LINKS. **Action – Helen** will advocate for that going into budget meeting and as part of meeting with Bill Post tomorrow. Also discuss where pathways reserve funds should be listed. Suggested that reserve funds have their own sub-heading so they do not get eaten up on salt and repaving.

**Camden downtown drainage project** – Geoff shared the Bicycle Coalition of Maine's grant program of "Imagine People Here". Various ideas of where we could use the grant were discussed. Nothing came to mind.

**Camden Pedestrian Safety** – the Camden SB is considering a resolution to make the town (particularly the downtown) safer for pedestrians. The resolution could be controversial because

implementing the resolution could result in the elimination of parking spots. The issue came up because of issues at CRMS raised by Principal Jamie Stone. Last fall a child got hit in a crosswalk on Mechanic St. Ped warning markers were put out. One of the signs got hit so many times it disintegrated. The crosswalk is at a diagonal, lands in a driveway. It's one of the most used crosswalks in town. Parking spots there have been blocked off temporarily because they interfere with line of sight. Also Free St. crosswalk marker is blocked by hedges; landscaping features are in the right of way and there is resistance from residents to remove. Audra will ask Select Board on Tuesday to adopt the resolution. The Town is getting quotes for flashing lights to be put at the crosswalk. Geoff suggests he'll write up something from PW to Select Board. Everyone was reminded that part of our sidewalk surveys is to list out hazardous situations including line-of-sight issues. **Action - Geoff** will send out the sidewalk surveys again – not sure they can still be found on new website.

The pros and cons of burying utility lines was discussed. Generally believed that cost is the issue to burying lines including to blast ledge. Wiki says underground cables much more expensive lifetime.

**AARP Application** – Anita needs to get started on this.

**Sidewalk Survey** – **Action - Geoff** will update, organize sidewalk survey so we can do one when weather gets better.

**Mapping Bike/Ped routes** – Knox county just got grant to expand the GIS mapping they do. Letitia is the county expert and is excited about helping out. All she does is mapping; incorporate data– trail maps – layers – County has resources to do it if there's bandwidth in the community. Alison says she's been mapping out streams and collecting "shape files". The Island Institute was prepared to help last year. This would be a great way to map out where the gaps are in terms of bike/ped connections. Could also include a "future planning layer" etc. Alison offers to set up a meeting with Letitia if anyone is interested – grand vision, raw files, list of what we need etc. Margo points out that not all files are digitized. Lynda - CMLT has a sophisticated mapping system for Around the Mountain Trail. They would be a good contact – their files could be included. Heidi would love to be involved; could also use handheld tools to gather additional missing data. School students could be involved in collecting info as well. Heidi wants to be included in the work. Alison, Margo, Heidi will form initial group. **Action – Geoff** to help define attributes of maps.

Adjourn 7:35pm