

Camden Rockport Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathways Committee
Minutes
February 8th, 2017 – Rockport Town Office
7:00 pm

Present:

Geoff Scott (minutes) – Camden
Leni Gronros – Rockport
Owen Casas – Rockport Liason
Helen Shaw – Rockport
Richard Stetson – Camden
Anita Brosius-Scott – Camden
Don White – Camden Select Board Liaison
John Titus – Rockport
Mac Thomas –Camden
Andrew Stancioff – Camden Alt
Lynda Clancy –Rockport
James Francomano – Rockport Development Director

Absent:

Robert Davis –Camden

February Minutes:

The minutes were accepted as written.

New Members:

No new candidates this month. Geoff heard back from Maggie Timmerman. She's too busy with other commitments/committees.

Route 1 by Maritime Farms:

Don White spoke with Roberta last week. She's figuring out where the funds are for the Matthew John to Shirttail point sidewalk project. Related, approval of funds for the Maritime Farms sidewalk are on the Camden Feb 21 agenda. Rockport has identified where the first half of their funding is coming from. Roberta is the new Maritime Farms sidewalk construction project manager.

Riverwalk:

MDOT sent an award letter for the Knowlton section of the Riverwalk. We were awarded \$50K. Discussion and agreement to release a general press release about the award. Geoff to speak with Roberta about establishing easements.

Discussed a \$10K max grant opportunity with Maine Community Foundation. Due 15 Feb. Roberta was supportive since there is no match required. Committee agreed to write the grant for \$7500 for easement establishment for future Riverwalk segments. Estimate costs of \$2500/easement.

Route 90:

Leni and James Francomano met. Approached Trevor Mills who is interested in working on the Rte 90 project. Perhaps the mountain bikers, NEMBA, would be in support of the project. Trevor wants to be kept in the loop on any related meetings/work. The group will be informally meeting with other key players like Taylor Allen and Tyler Smith. Jamie met to discuss mapping out all the possible connections to the project.

Rte 1 North:

The work group is working towards composing a letter of inquiry to the State for Scenic Highway designation of the section from the State Park north the the Lincolnville Town line, perhaps beyond, to Lincolnville Beach. This designation could be helpful with future grants.

Ernie Martin will be sending a letter in response to the items/points made in the letter from the group to him. He has also agreed to come back to Camden and meet with the Committee and Town.

Budget Recommendations

Geoff met with both Rockport and Camden Public Works supplying our recommendations to their budgets with emphasis on making existing routes wheelchair accessible. See addendum for what was sent them.

Rt 105 sidewalk extension:

Anita knocked on the doors on the east side of the street to the property owners that have not responded. Nine have still not responded. MDOT does not need to hear from all the owners to move along. Schedule is to complete by 2018. Letters took about a year to work through. Letters are not holding us up anymore. And since there's documented public meetings, we're past that stage as well. This project is a Locally Administered Project (LAP) which means the local Town Manager and SB have responsibility to push this along. Don White volunteered to take responsibility to drive this project forward and monitor. Anita will continue to monitor for Pathways.

High School Running Path

Another volunteer day was completed. About 8-10 volunteers worked for half a day. Good progress clearing out brush. Next step is chipping debris. Then prepping the base to take all the ground-up track for the drainage base layer. Also need to build a couple of bridges. Goal is to complete before end of school and track refurb begins.

Camden Master Plan

The input from the committee needs to be integrated. Geoff to get this done. Sidewalks accessibility very important. Don White underscores that this is a very important subject. Need to get people at Quarry Hill across the street, down to Norwood, down Pearl St. Take on utility companies with PR!

Owen – wife is working with the Waste Watch Group – a group interested in reducing solid waste. Identified a park recycling grant. Basically receptacles to put into parks for recycling. Is there an appropriate place – that should be added to this list? None identified related to Pathways.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm.

Addendum – Pathways Budget Recommendations

For **Camden**, the main focus was on accessibility on Elm St, coming into town from Park St. Rick Seibel, Public Works, pointed out a pave around he's already done on Belmont, looks good. Anita suggested a bump out similar to the ones proposed in the downtown master plan to get around the stair challenge in front of Jaret and Cohen RE. Specifics of the budget conversation with Public Works were:

Utility Poles: These are utility poles which obstruct pedestrians on sidewalks. Since each utility pole is a unique challenge, it's difficult to determine how many we could afford to move in a year. So here is our list, prioritized starting from highest. On each street relocate those poles closest to town and then move outwards, further away from the center of town:

1. Elm Street – Stop-N-Go to Reny's. The poles are in front of the following residences: #64, #68, #74, corner of Park St, #96, @Medina Dentistry (@ Curtis)
2. Mechanic St –starting at the barber shop working o utwards
3. Belmont Ave – numerous
4. Union St – numerous – starting at Belmont Ave

Sidewalk Maintenance: Please consider this sidewalk maintenance in context with the utility poles above. That is, do not do sidewalk maintenance around a poorly placed utility pole. The first step is to replace the utility pole and then improve the sidewalk.

1. Mechanic St @Learning Center, this intersection is in desperate need of repair. Very rough pavement for cyclists. Also at @ #48 driveway - bike lane area with crumbled and raised asphalt.
2. Union St – #30-#48 sidewalk needs to be rebuilt. Walk by Montessori School needs to be rebuilt/built
3. Knowlton St – in front of CRMS, on the school side, need to create a differentiation of the sidewalk from the road and “protect” pedestrians

For **Rockport**, generally make existing sidewalks wheelchair accessible.

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1. Route 17 – four poles heading west on Route 17 from Route 90

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1. Pascal Ave – the high sidewalk
2. Main St – need to complete an actual sidewalk form School St up to the Camden St intersection, preferably to the Town Office
3. Russell Ave – need to actually connect these sidewalk sections into a continuous sidewalk. Sample issues: designated parking in the middle of a sidewalk; encroaching dirt from hillside needs a retaining wall.