

Camden Rockport Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathways Committee
Minutes
Sept 4, 2019 – Camden Town Office
7:00 pm

Present:

Geoff Scott (minutes) – Camden
Anita Brosius-Scott – Camden
Richard Stetson – Camden
Robert Davis – Camden
Lynda Clancy – Rockport
Owen Casas – Rockport
Jeff Hamilton – Rockport Select Board Liaison

Absent:

Andrew Stancioff – Camden
Jane Self – Camden, Alternate
Jenna Lookner – Camden Select Board Liaison
Margo Murphy – Rockport
Helen Shaw – Rockport

August Minutes - The minutes were accepted as written.

New Members - Action – Geoff to speak with Bobby Morgan at Flatbread, Trevor Mills, Scott Layton, Andrew Stewart. **Action – Margo** will speak with Annika Charland and her father about interest level.

Route 1 by Maritime Farms – No update

Riverwalk – Knowlton Section – mostly done from Knowlton St parking lot to WWT plant property line. There are some issues related to compacting, dead trees, erosion, and the stone dust being rough and not fine enough. Town has been in touch with Dan Ford. For the upper and lower spurs, Ford is awaiting G&D engineering and details on alignment on the WWT Plant. Lower spur is good to go. Regarding the viewing platform at WWT property line, Japanese knotweed is 8-10' tall there, thus not a great spot for a viewing platform. The Committee recommends that if the town moves forward, don't put a bench at the platform. Funds for the spurs and platform should be still available from the grant. Money has to be spent by Dec. 31.

Route 90 – Lynda attended the fundraiser for the connector trail, connecting from Erickson Fields trail up to Beech Hill/Beech Nut House. Ian Stewart and many CMLT Board members were there and she spoke with many of them. They're very interested in integration with Pathways and Route 90 project. Ian is thinking about crossing at Route 90 and connections. Lynda feels it's a good time to have the summit discussion pulling together MCNEMBA, Pathways, CMLT, MCHT, Georges River Land Trust. Pull all together for conversation; clarify goals and intentions, see where crossovers are etc. Lynda is advocating and aiming at mid-November for timing of summit.

Bike awareness – Andrew has been away. Andrew and Anita drove around, particularly looking at outer Washington and Mechanic Streets. Andrew suggests deciding how many signs and order them. Lynda suggests digital light signs that can be moved around. SB will want to know what the response is from the community. Can we figure out any data points? Also need to find out exactly what is available from MDOT. Then go to the town. Downside of painting on road is that it wears away, so must repaint every year, adding to costs. Signage seems better. Is there a way we could measure the community response to signs? Maybe by complaints? No complaints would imply signs are okay. Stenciling? Do we limit stenciling to a certain speed limit? Signs needed just prior to where there is no shoulder – good placement. Also signs should be placed just before hills and curves where cars going around bikes are putting themselves into the other lane trying to get around bikes. Safety is issue for everyone involved. Consider overlapping with any bike routes advertised – Maine Sport, Greenway, Adventure Cyclists, Vermont Cycling.

Easements - Geoff has gotten nowhere on this. He's doing a 4-pager and one-pager, then will present to Town/Audra for consideration by lawyer. Re setback issue, let's do the easement even though current shoreland setback is too great. So we may never execute the rights, but if the setback is reduced to 25' we will have the easement in place. Discussion continued on a model of a value placed on an easement the Town is interested in. This model exists in other towns like King County, WA. Perhaps bring Kerry Leichtman in to discuss, assessor for both towns. **Anita and Owen** volunteered to look more into the King County model and associated incentives.

Camden – Downtown Drainage Project - Workgroup met, Geoff will take those recommendations to Jeremy Martin as suggested by Bob Falciani. Bob doesn't want a direct report to SB until Jeremy hears back from MDOT on doability of recommendations. Big feedback from the work group is, Why isn't a landscape architect involved for downtown landscape design??

Rockport Bond – Pathways Related – Jeff provided an overview of the Rockport Bond question, a \$1.6m, 10 year bond which will go to voters in Nov, to address roads, parking areas, + sidewalks (\$250K). Bond is for projects that will last 10 or more years. Geoff provided the list of 6 project areas and gave an overview of his visits at each site with Mike Young. The six areas being considered, and discussed by PWComm: **1)** downtown village Rockport – steps by galleries – deteriorated; **2)** Main street to town office. Pick up sidewalk from Summer St. to town office, helps Maine Media Workshop. \$100K granite and concrete. Drainage engineering involved. **3)** West St. from Rayr up past old RPt elem site. **4)** Rockville, 200' by chapel. John Titus will be involved in this. John is discussing options with Rockville residents and will get back to Geoff. **5)** Russell Ave., from downtown in village, past library, past Mechanic. There is a crosswalk across top of Mechanic. Geoff and Mike thought better cross there to non-water side. Mike wants to add a foot to sidewalk on non-harbor side, the inside of the curve. **6)** upper part of Russell Ave., 150', add a foot of width., \$15K. Long discussion to develop recommendation of these projects in priority order.

Result of setting priorities:

- 1. Rockville**
- 2. West St/RES**
- 3. Village Steps**
- 4. Russell Ave Lower**
- 5. Russell Ave Upper**
- 6. Main St/Summer to Town Office**

Also, during the Rockport SB meeting, there was a verbal commitment that maintenance funds will go to W. Rockport and Warrenton sidewalks. Jeff reported that the SB has encouraged Mike to re-adjust Public Works priorities.