

Minutes  
Nov 10, 2021 – Zoom call  
6:05 pm

**Present:**

Anita Brosius-Scott – Camden  
Lynda Clancy – Rockport  
Geoff Scott – Camden  
Richard Stetson – Camden  
Heidi Baker, Rockport  
Helen Shaw – Rockport  
Alison McKellar, Camden Select Board Liaison

**Absent:**

Andrew Stancioff – Camden  
Margo Murphy – Rockport  
Jane Self – Camden, Alternate  
Will Galloway – Camden  
Mark Kelly – Rockport Select Board Liaison

**Oct Minutes** – Accepted as written.

**Committee Membership – Action – All** – keep working on ideas for Rockport candidates, both a member and alternates. **Action – Geoff** to ask John Titus if he'd like to rejoin. **Action – Geoff** to remind Camden SB to consider adding Will Galloway to the committee and confirm Geoff, Andrew, and Jane for another term.

**Maritime Farms Sidewalk (and Washington Sidewalk Extension)** – still on the MDOT project list for 2022.

**Riverwalk** – no update

**Route 90** – there will be a meeting in Rockport to discuss future plans. Geoff has asked to be included. Lynda contacted Patrick Adams at MDOT to discuss strategies on how to improve ped and bike ways along Rte 90, but has not heard back from him. **Action – Lynda** will continue to remind Mr. Adams of our interest.

**Mechanic Street sharrow signs** – not many comments either for or against. Some related they thought the signs were good though a bit small. Discussed when to take them down, decided to have Anita keep an eye on them and when they start looking like they might come off, take them down. Next time print signs bigger. Alison said she's pleased; "It's a model that can be expanded."

**Meeting Dec 1** – in person at the Rockport Town office. The meeting will begin with a Public Hearing to discuss adopting wording into the committee bylaws for remote participation. The meeting will be advertised by the Town of Rockport.

**Sidewalk Surveys** – thanks to everyone who completed their surveys. **Action** – **Richard** to get his surveys in and **Action** – **Lynda** to get the rest of hers in.

**Utility Poles** – Alison shared that Camden has discussed working on a new Road Opening Ordinance; utility poles issue could be incorporated into that ordinance.

**Removal of sidewalks** – discussion around how to manage removal of sidewalks deemed not necessary. Occasionally the town removes a sidewalk, for example the Summer St sidewalk was recently removed. How that decision occurred is unclear. It's suggested we explore a process to be used by both towns on how they approach removing sidewalks. People should have an opportunity for input. An idea: if the town is considering removing a sidewalk, town should have a public hearing/community conversation/listening session on it, 2-3 months prior to any planned removal. Our Committee should be notified. Removal of a sidewalk frees up maintenance funds. But too many layers of public input/process requirements could make it more difficult to move forward on projects. Could lose political will to do anything. Maybe it's as simple as an annual meeting with Public Works to find out what's on their agenda for the following year (providing time to weigh in).

DOT speed limits – if a sidewalk is removed, could lower the speed limit lower than 25, if now sharing the street with pedestrians. Check with MDOT. A state law was passed in 2009 that the town could take over speed limits on streets. Don't know of any town that had followed through with that and tried to change their speed limits. If we adopt a "shared street" concept, that term implies a lot of traffic calming measures. A national "shared street" diagrammatic concept was shown where the street is designed so that cars park on alternating sides so traffic has to go move slowly as the car 'winds' down the street. Discussion about advisory lanes serving that role. If sidewalks are taken out, perhaps we could put in advisory lanes, on appropriate streets. **Action** - when town considers taking out sidewalk, Pathways Committee would suggest Advisory Lanes be put onto appropriate streets. What would the Select Board process be to move such an action through? Memo? Motion? Suggested it's integrated into the process the town goes through when infrastructure is upgraded. That's the time certain things have to be considered (like pedestrian accommodation) – it could be packaged into that.

**CSD Connector** – Paul Cartwright was invited to share the historical effort to create a pedestrian/bike connection between CRMS and CHRHS, what was called the CSD Connector. Paul said he'd be happy to answer any specific questions but didn't have any interest in presenting anything to the committee. Given all the work that has been done since those initial efforts, maybe the CSD Connector would now go down Rte 1 and then turn up Rte 90. We have several of those pieces already in process.

Next meeting December 1, in person, Rockport Town Hall  
Adjourned 7:25