

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

Present:

Geoff Scott – Camden
Anita Brosius-Scott (minutes) – Camden
Richard Stetson – Camden
Helen Shaw – Rockport
Lynda Clancy – Rockport
Margo Murphy – Rockport
Jane Self – Camden, Alternate
Alison McKellar – Camden Select Board Liaison

Guest:

Annika Charland - Rockport

Absent:

Robert Davis –Camden
Andrew Stancioff – Camden
Jeff Hamilton – Rockport Select Board Liaison
Owen Casas – Rockport

Nov Minutes - The minutes were accepted as amended.

New Members – We still have one slot available for a Rockport member. Annika Charland was encouraged to submit her interest to the Select Board.

Maritime Farms – Geoff was under the impression that this and the Shirrtail extension would have gone out to bid by now. **Action – Geoff** to confirm with Audra that bids have gone out.

Route 1 North – Bob Falciani, perhaps other SB members, and various town employees will meet with MDOT to discuss status of all the projects that are in process, including this one.

Riverwalk – Knowlton Section – Geoff met with Bob Falciani and also with Audra in an attempt to extend funds for construction of a lower spur before year end. It turns out, the engineering drawings are only rough drafts and they would need to be completed prior to construction beginning. So there's no time for all this to happen before winter sets in. PW Committee raised the question why no town official brought the issue of incomplete engineering to our attention during these months of discussions. Even prior to these discussions, Beth Ward had already turned in financial report to MDOT for closure of the RTP grant. In the end, we used \$39K of the \$50K grant. The remaining \$10K will no longer be available for this project.

Regarding the erosion issues below the Lions Club, Geoff sent an email to Beth, cc Dave Laurent. Dave responded quickly and Geoff and Dave met on site to discuss. The issue is that when it rains, water pours down from the parking area around the bus barn, down the simple access road next to the Lions Club, ultimately crossing and running down the Riverwalk. Plowing from the parking area may exacerbate the erosion problem. Dave had various ideas how to mitigate the problems and said that Public Works would be happy to add this to their maintenance list in the spring. Prior to that work, the town would need to get a temporary construction easement from the Lions Club. **Action – Geoff** will discuss with King Lion Peter Martin about getting a temporary easement. Any construction/mitigation needs to be sensitive to the desire of the Lions Club for the future construction of a deck in this area.

Riverwalk – Wastewater Treatment Plant Section – there's the potential for the new WWTP construction to either help or hinder this future section of the Riverwalk. The Committee unanimously agreed to having Geoff reach out to the town and Dave Bolstridge on when there can be public input into the process of WWTP reconstruction. During that input, consider less fencing, and moving the fencing around the property closer to the buildings/structures reducing snow removal challenges as well as access to this section of the Riverwalk.

Route 90 – Geoff expressed concern that we need to come up with a strategy to move the Route 90 multi-use path forward. Geoff suggests that Annika and a group of CHRHS students talk to Patrick Adams of MDOT to discuss their vision and needs. Pathways vision is to have a multi-use trail from Route 1 to Route 17 along 90. Margo: there are a number of kids between 17 and route 1. Crossing Route 17 is very dangerous, most dangerous in Knox Co. Lynda – RES is another factor. And so is the fire station rebuild that is planned at Routes 17/90. Perhaps a safer intersection can happen when the fire station is rebuilt.

We need the summit first. Need help from Rockport planner Bill Napauer, but he only works 1 day a week, he would likely say Rockport doesn't have the bandwidth for such planning. If we built a coalition through the Summit process, we would have better opportunity.

Summit 2020 - Jan 23, 5-7 pm at Flatbread looks like the date. Megan Grabbel at Island Institute will help with recording input on a map. Goal is to get together anybody working on trails anywhere in area, record those trails/connections, look at goals, progress on trails/connections, gaps, and opportunities for working together. See where the gaps are. Who would take those gaps on? Have to do some personal calls to get all the folks into the meeting. Open it up to the public. Just facilitate to move the agenda forward. Include Tyler Smith who is on Rockport Historical Society board. Include members from Midcoast economic development and public safety/recreation. Nice if an outcome would reinforce the need to construct a path along Route 90. **Action – Margo** will get in touch with Megan.

Geoff offers to get town to create a big map to put on wall of Camden; need same from Rockport. Or maybe we'll just use a digital projection? Lynda and Margo will decide which option makes more sense.

Discussion continues around how wide an area we'll discuss. Should we extend to Rockland, Lincolnville, Hope? Agreed to keep it to Camden and Rockport town lines, but also invite planners from neighboring areas. Also will post invitation on the town website and Alison will announce at the SB meeting. Others to consider inviting: CMLT, MCHT, CRMS/School Board, MCSW.

Bike Awareness – Anita presented a map showing all existing and planned pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure in Camden. Committee discussed and provided additional input to clarify elements of the map. Next step is to finalize map and deliver to Public Works, Dave St. Laurent – **Action Anita and Andrew.**

Rawson Ave Bridge – MDOT has responded to public input and said they will allow pedestrians and bicyclists to continue to use the bridge “at their own risk.” They will not put up any additional fencing/barriers.

Adjourned – 9 pm

Next Meeting – Jan 8 in Rockport