

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK
2023 JAN 12 AM 9:32
RECEIVED

Complete Streets Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: December 13, 2022, at 7 pm

Location: Remote Meeting via Zoom

Members Present: Peter Bloomfield, Chair
Kevin Cafferty
Dan Collins
Brendan Sullivan
Glenn Ferguson

Members Absent: Jason Brown
Christopher Madden

Others Present: Ilana Quirk, Director of Planning & Community Development
Kristin Ford, Admin. Asst.

1. Meeting called to order

Motion: to accept the agenda as written (Bloomfield) as written seconded (Ferguson) and passed by roll call vote. 5/0/0

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion: by (Collins) to accept the meeting minutes for November 1, 2022, as amended seconded (Sullivan) and passed by roll call vote. 4/0/1-Cafferty

3. Approval of Bills

None.

4. Citizen Commentary (if any)

None.

5. Business Items*

Homestead to Town Center Status Report -

Member Ferguson reported that the curbing has arrived and is stocked in the yard. Some of the drainage work has started. A few trees need to be removed and some saw cutting also needs to be completed prior to starting. This part of the project, Phase 5, will resume in early spring. Permits and Grant/Article funding are all in place.

Complete Streets Prioritization Plan and Update Survey-

During the last two meeting the Committee came up with 5 potential locations to include in a town resident survey and then to include in an updated prioritization plan. The survey perhaps could have an open text spot for comments. The five potential locations that have been under discussion are as follows and further discussion was had:

1. Dover & Main to Dover to Scituate town Line

Glenn Ferguson, Norwell Highway Superintendent, believes there are a lot of challenges to get from Main Street to the Scituate line. Many issues would have to be addressed. Does Scituate have a plan to meet us there? How are they getting over 3A? A few million-dollar project? Do we have the rights of way that will be needed?

Kevin Cafferty, Scituate Superintendent, says there is a walking path behind the blueberry tree farm. Glenn believes South Street, River Street and Grove Street have real challenges like moving telephone poles and mailboxes and he believes it is cost prohibitive and he does not believe it will look esthetically correct or be economical. Kevin believes the Main Street project will be a 5-year project. The state wants to see the potential for connectivity to the MBTA when considering Grants.

2. Old Oaken Bucket to Cross St.

Glenn Ferguson: We don't have the necessary rights of way to place sidewalks on OOB.

3. Wilder to Wompatuck Parking Lot

Glenn Ferguson: Grove Street from Wilder – no right of way.

4. River to Hanover Town Line starting at Garfield Park

Glenn Ferguson: River Street - no right of way.

5. South Street to the YMCA.

Glenn Ferguson: South Street -no right of way on the road but a pathway could be explored through the back woods. One of the properties, maybe two, would need an easement.

As a general matter, Glenn Ferguson noted that, aesthetically, the sidewalks need to “fit”, and safety is also a concern. Glenn says the sidewalks are extremely expensive.

Kevin Cafferty suggested that the survey not go forward yet. Dan Collins agreed with Kevin's suggestion to hold off on the survey since Glenn believes the projects cannot be completed due to many hurdles and the costs involved. Dan agrees that the prioritization plan update needs to be thought through carefully as it should include only viable projects. Dan noted he believes the initial assessments of potential sites should be a priority and aesthetics are hard to account for until we ask the people. Dan suggests that is where the survey comes in. Do the people want to see more sidewalk?

RECEIVED
2023 JAN 12 AM 9:32
TOWN OF NORWELL
CITY CLERK

Brendan Sullivan wants to keep Vinal School on the list. He believes a sidewalk in front of every school is very important. Kevin believes the school/grant connection is great as the state wants to see sidewalks near schools to promote access by students by foot.

Glenn agreed to look at the Central Street to Cross Street area. He believes there are some difficult sections on that run. He agreed that both Old Oaken Bucket and Main Street projects are connecting resources.

Completes Streets is also charged with other safety items like flashing beacons, crosswalks, signage. Circuit Street and Norwell Center added safety features with positive feedback.

Main Street to Jacobs Pond Parking Lot and Science Center is an area Glenn thinks may work and behind the wall and not curbing it. This would also include a crosswalk across Main Street. Kevin believes Pathway Committee looked at this in the past.

Moving Forward let's add Main Street to Jacobs Pond Parking lot to the list and eliminate River Street and South Street.

Glenn suggested that Longwater Drive/Longwater Circle be added to the list. Glenn will drive the locations and he believes you need 10-12' to install a sidewalk.

Brendan Sullivan believes we can only put items on the list that are feasible.

- 1.) Main Street to Scituate Town Line (great for funding but Scituate connection is a big question)
- 2.) Central Street to Cross Street
- 3.) Main Street to Jacobs Pond Parking area
- 4.) Longwater Drive/Longwater Circle
- 5.) Vinal School

Glenn asked if CS has to do a survey and Peter responded that it isn't a requirement - but it was suggested at previous meetings as a good thing to gather information from the residents, and then use the data to update our prioritization plan. Also, it gives the town buy in. Ilana will check to see when the next town mailer is going out and research what the details are. Sounds like linking the survey to the town's website is the way to go. Peter will reach out to Ilana soon to discuss.

Adjournment at 7:40 pm by roll call vote (unanimous)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 2022, at 7 pm.

RECEIVED
2023 JAN 12 AM 9:33
TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK

