

The Historic Village Improvement Committee
Meeting Notes for Tuesday May 1, 2018

Present: DJ Noyes, William Douglass, Brian Cooper, Jonathan Edwards, Dick Blodgett
Guests: Juliet Hodge

Meeting called at 7:08

1. Expansion of Historic District needed to include houses on West side of Wyassup Rd. before Grange.

2. a) Determination made that walkways / sidewalks will be a primary focus to enhance utilization of village by pedestrians. Sidewalk projects can be broken up into phases. Phase one (most dangerous) from village hardware/cafe to Grange. North up Wyassup Rd. on right side. Allows safe passage from Grange/ Fairgrounds/Little League into Village. Can allow access to Historic Ripley Pond/ Dam (owned by Avalonia) on Babcock Rd.

b) Discussion needed with Highway Dept. re: road widths, drainage, catch basins

c) To meet ADA compliance walkways must be 5 feet wide. Material choices are available to keep in harmony with Historic Village.

d) Raleigh, NC used as example for of successful project of this nature.

3. a) Potential Grant sources. Library, church, schools can be of assistance in seeking grants for safe walkways to their facilities. Safe Routes to School Grants via South Eastern Council of Governments (SECOG).

b) Assistance via SECTR for walkability. Director Kate Rattan and Planner Carly Myers to be contacted.

4. Historic signage, appropriate lighting, landscaping (including trees) needed to highlight district and add visual interest and safety at night.

5.a) Need to involve residents and share ideas, make comments and gather support. Determination made to have information available at town meeting in May (photography, ideas) but not make formal presentation (too soon).

b) Discussion about potential use of Hescok Building as gathering place for committee ideas and meetings, visual aids, comment board. "Turn on a light in the village"

6) Discussion about improving entrance to town on right side of Main Street after Cemetary. Contact library (owners?), conservation commission, others to be rid of unsightly brush and make connection to Hewitt Park. Something that can be done this year, without grant funding.

7) Discussion about bike lanes. Selectmen could implement. Potential use of old Trolley Lane as connector for pedestrians and bikes. Could help to connect businesses by Milltown Pizza. Area ripe for redevelopment and could be in harmony with village.

To Do:

DJ Noyes- compile information for town meeting in May

Brian Cooper--look into Village improvement Grants

Jon Edwards--contact BOS re: no formal presentation at town meeting. Contact Kate Rattan and Carly Myers about assistance they can provide our committee. Speak to library and Conservation Commission about cleaning up right side of Main St.

Dick Blodgett and William Douglass--create potential plan for phased implementation of walkways and key areas to connect.

Selectman Bob Carlson--assist with meeting with Town Highway Dept. and potential bike lanes

Meeting Adjourned 9:06

Minutes taken by Jonathan Edwards

Next meeting June 5, 2018 7pm Wheeler Library