

Approved: January 23, 2015

**TOWN CENTER COMMITTEE
MINUTES NOVEMBER 21, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 9:07.

Present: Nelson Disco, Peter Flood, Deb Huffman, Jackie Flood, Davis Powell, who is taking over from Chris Ortega representing the School Board. **Excused:** Bill Wilkes, Karen Freed, Finlay Rothhaus. **Guest:** Lelia Mellen.

Minutes: The October 30 minutes were approved.

Town Council Presentation: Nelson will be the spokesman at the Annual Review on December 18. All members are encouraged to attend.

Old Business:

Safe Routes to School: Chris Ortega was not present to discuss plans for 2015 or the webinar he attended.

Souhegan River Walk: James Jolly has finished his bridge project, and high school kids are using it a lot. Extra money from this Eagle Scout project has been deposited in the Town Center Committee Capital Reserve Account. The Merrill's Marauders sign is being edited in anticipation of a final version soon.

The bog bridge will eventually connect the west side of the trail to the east side, under the Chamberlain Bridge into Watson Park. Deb commented that she pictures the bog bridge as a simple walkway with railings. Peter mentioned a deck along the bog bridge so people can sit. Lelia said that a bridge similar to Twin Bridge Park bridge would require a crane and other equipment. Nelson thinks that we should leave options on the table since the funding we get, like TAP money, might require a bridge with concrete abutments and use of steel. Lelia replied that if we get transportation money, the grantors have specific notions of the construction that is necessary. Peter suggested that a design could still use concrete, but it

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could be covered. Deb could accept some concrete. Lelia volunteered to find a design that is suitable and show it to us.

Deb Huffman will be going on "hiatus" from the Committee. Her job is very demanding now. She wishes us well and plans to help out with projects from time to time. She left at 9:30. Nelson and Peter commented that we will keep in touch with Deb, particularly about the bog walk and bridge.

Nelson will poll the committee on appropriate meeting times and on additional members.

Status of TAP: TAP voted on who would get the grant in our area; we finished 3 out of 4 through the vote of the Nashua Regional Planning Commission. This counts 6% out of the total score. The final answer will come in January.

The east side of the trail project has to wait for the TAP answer. We have the survey from Keach Nordstrom for the Shoreline Protection application.

The Fire Department should be kept apprised of our progress and be given information on trails. Lelia will come to that meeting if we want. We would want a means to access both sides of the Chamberlain Bridge, perhaps to the back of the fire station rather than the front, which would be steeper.

Public Outreach: Jackie will take part in our Community Outreach, the first event scheduled to be Winter Carnival at Wasserman Park. She will also make inquiries to the Nashua Artists Association about taking part in an "Art in the Park" event at Watson Park. She would help with a regular "trail walk" led by members to familiarize the town with the Souhegan Trail. Perhaps James Jolly would enjoy taking part and showing his handiwork.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be noon on January 23, 2015.

Adjournment: Peter Flood motioned, Jackie seconded, all in favor: 10:10.