

**Town Center Committee
Minutes January 22, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 PM.

Present: Nelson Disco, Dawn Cote, Mary Hendricks, Karen Freed. **Absent:** Peter and Jackie Flood, Chris Ortega, Bill Wilkes, Finley Rothhaus

Minutes: Karen moved to accept December 4 minutes. Mary seconded, 4 approved, 1 abstention.

Introduction: Dawn Cote was introduced as a new committee member. She is replacing Davis Powell as the Town Center liaison to the schools.

Old Business: TAP Award: The consultant has nearly completed reviewing and meeting regarding the Scope of Work and will send it to the Department of Transportation. The survey by Keach- Nordstrom has provided good data. There will be a public hearing sometime in February. Alternate actions may be proposed that are required by law, such as a traffic light and/or removal of contaminated soil in proposed parts of the trail.

Sign and Plaque: This will wait until weather improves so the trail is not so dangerous to negotiate.

Map Brochure: Mary will request that the Town Manager's Office color print a supply for distribution to the public.

New Business: Other projects for consideration in 2016: Dawn Shepherd, President of the Merrimack Chamber of Commerce, is interested in grant money available for Town Center development from the "Small Business Revolution on Main Street". There will be one award nationally for \$500,000. Although the application form seems to infer that a town center (Main Street) already exists and requires refurbishment, this grant might warrant further research.

2017-2018 TAP Projects: Schools will be repaving. Will they allow sidewalks to be installed on O'Gara Drive when they do this work? Should Bishop Street sidewalks be given priority over McElwain Street for student safety? Should there be sidewalks on School Street?

There is open land near Mastricola Elementary between condos and senior housing that might offer a direct route for students walking to school. Members of the TCC will walk the route.

Public Outreach: The Winter Carnival, Saturday, Feb. 20 ; Easter Egg Hunt at Wasserman Park, Library Summer Program Kickoff in June, Wednesday Summer Concerts at Abbie Griffin Park.

Public Comment – none

Next Meeting – February 26, 2016 at 12:00 in the Matthew Thornton Room

Nelson moved to adjourn and Mary seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 1:07 PM.