

Merrimack Town Center Committee
Minutes of December 1, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 12:04.

Present: Nelson Disco, Bill Wilkes, Bill Cummings, Mary Hendricks, Jackie Flood

Absent: Peter Flood, Karen Freed, Matt Shevenell, Finlay Rothhaus

Minutes: Bill Cummings moved that the June 23, 2017 minutes be approved, Bill Wilkes seconded, all were in favor.

Bill Cummings moved that the September 22, 2017 minutes be approved, Mary seconded, all were in favor with Peter, Jackie, Matt and Finlay abstaining.

Bill Cummings moved that the Oct. 27 minutes be approved, Mary seconded, all were in favor.

Old Business:

Status of Souhegan River Trail: An Archeological study will be ready by the end of the year. We are not sure if the trail can go through the sluiceway.

Status of the 2016 TAP Grant: Nelson reported that the sidewalk plan for Woodbury Street will be going out to bid for engineering work.

Status of the walkway at Abby Griffin Park, from Rte. 3 to the Courthouse: Bill Wilkes reported that it is 90% done, will need some top dressing in the spring. Germination from the first seeding, some of which washed away, is showing now.

Filming of the Griffin Park walkway project: Bill Cummings reported that Justin took it off Bill's phone: 20 minutes more or less. Bill Wilkes suggested a follow-up, perhaps down Woodbury St. where the sidewalk will go. Bill W. would like to add footage so people can see where our committee is headed – towards a walkable town center with a network of trails and sidewalks. The film is ready for broadcast; Bill C. will sign off on it. Nelson has some still pictures to add either to

the film or for display. He suggested that we'd like to know when it is aired so we can see it. Bill C. narrated it, so maybe we can add some credits. Bill Wilkes thinks we could add footage as we go to keep people informed of our progress.

Halloween Party: Nelson, Peter and Jackie set up at the event and greeted people who were interested in our maps and trails. We had good new leaflets from Mary Hendricks.

New Business:

Winter Carnival: The Committee will have a table at the Carnival and setup.

Celebration of the Abbie Griffin Park stairway: Maybe we could have an event in May when the grass is established. Bill Wilkes said that the Rotary Club might do a Saturday project to clean up the perimeter of the park.

Horse Trough: The trough presents a very complicated issue of ownership. The problem would involve tracing deeds, D. W. Highway construction and rights of way over the years, as well as the origin of the trough and the year it was set up. The owner of the yellow house claims it and had taken it back some years ago when the town moved it.

Additional TV presentations: We will ask Matt S. to help locate a filmmaker at the high school or Matt Casparius might know a scout who wants an Eagle project.

Election of Officers: Bill W. nominated Nelson for a one year term as chair, Jackie to be secretary, Peter to be vice-chair. Bill moved, Mary seconded, all in favor.

Nelson is preparing the annual report of the committee to be put into the town report.

The NRPC and our planning department is working on a map of our sidewalks.
The project will end in June.

The large intersection where the D W Highway, the Everett Turnpike and Amherst Road converge is undergoing a careful assessment. This is out of our jurisdiction, but we can be aware of it.

The next meeting will be Jan. 26, 2018.

Bill w. moved to adjourn, Mary seconded, all in favor. 1:06 p.m.