



**Merrimack Town Center Committee
Minutes for TCC Meeting of
Friday, February 15, 2019**

1. Call to Order (mics on)

In attendance: Karen Freed, Nelson Disco, Peter Flood, Bill Cummings, Bill Wilkes, and Matt Shevenell. Excused: Jackie Flood.
Guest: Bill Sousa

2. Designated Minute Taker – Bill Cummings volunteered.

3. Revisions to the 11/30/18 minutes:

In the section titled **Status of Souhegan River Trail**. Deleted following 2 lines from the draft minutes:

“The culvert pipe is corroded. Projected rainfalls need greater clearance.”

Bill Wilkes asked if Finlay Rothhaus is still part of our committee? Nelson said Finlay is interested, but he is either not able, too busy to attend, or simply forgets.

Motion to approve minutes, as amended above, by:
Karen; 2nd by Peter Flood.

Peter Flood, Matt Shevenell, Nelson Disco, and Karen Freed voted in the affirmative. Bill Wilkes and Bill Cummings abstained due to the fact they were not in attendance on 11/30/19.

4. Old Business Discussions

a. TCC Vacancies – Bill Sousa was in the audience, and is interested and was introduced. Nelson reminded us that nominees do need to be approved by the Town Council.

b. Status Planning Board/NRPC Study – Nelson – stalled at the state level, report is just about finished. Looking at sidewalks along route 3 from Nashua to Bedford. A NH DOT review of the plan draft has been requested.

c. Status of Souhegan River Trail and 2018 Grant Applications Nelson reported that the plan for the Souhegan River Trail alive. In the hands of the state. Still in design phase, and that it is planned go out to bid this fall. We don't get reports from them. Woodbury Street sidewalk ATP proposal by Merrimack was not awarded to Merrimack. We will need to reapply again, perhaps in 2020.

d. Anonymous Gift to the TCC. In December the Town Council accepted an anonymous of \$750 for Town Center Projects. There is now about \$1,000 available for TCC projects.

e. Chamber Representative? No one has been brought forward yet.

f. Annual Report for Town Center Committee submitted by Nelson to the town on January 4.

g. Officers for 2019? Everyone seems content with the officers as they are: Jackie Flood – Secretary, Nelson Disco – Chair, Peter Flood – Vice Chair.

5. New Business

- a. Coverage for Town Winter Carnival February 23 - we have supported this event in the past. Noon – 3 p.m. Jackie and Peter Flood have been in charge of this in the past. Bill Wilkes and Nelson are willing to volunteer. Jackie Flood usually coordinates this with Matt Casparius of Park & Rec.
- b. Additions for the TCC on Town Web Site – Bill Cummings will organize this, including adding videos from time to time with Becky Thompson.

Action item: Bill will follow-up and post the video we filmed from the steps dedication this past fall. It is not running on Merrimack Cable TV (MCTV) any longer.

Pancake breakfast is available for us to setup a table (as we have done in the past) and Rotary will continue doing this.

Also for the Turkey Shoot in November. Past elections – survey was on a table at 2 out of 3 polling places.

Farmer's Market – support for a table during the summertime.

Bill Wilkes asked about the Monahan plan for sidewalks.

Nelson spoke as a member of the planning board.

Lots of sidewalks are a part of this plan.

Bill asked: is there anything of a smaller scope that we can do?

Nelson asked everyone to go home and think about this and come back with some ideas for our next meeting (3/29).

What progress can we make over the next year?

Sluiceway project is funded and will happen someday. The Souhegan River Trail project is supposed to go out to bid this fall.

b. Additional TV Presentations? Yes. Following discussion, it was decided that we would walk the trail to Wildcat Falls: Bill Wilkes, Bill Cummings, Nelson, Bill Sousa, perhaps early in May. Meanwhile, that we see if a videography student might come along and videotape it for us. Let's show off the trails.

d. Other projects to consider for 2018? (Winter Carnival, 4th of July, Turkey Shoot. Maybe a table at town elections).

6. Public Comments – Bill Sousa, 7 Usher Lane, Merrimack, NH spoke. Retired Merrimack Civics teacher. Comments and suggestions:

Approved: March 29, 2019

TCC donation could be used for trail signs. Need more boots on the ground. How about tapping into the physical ed departments at every level in schools. Involve the schools, and eventually, the parents. MHS students could go to the trails. Teachers would like as staff development. Public television. He does watch. Let's put that to use. Get the YMCA – Merrimack involved. He's going to contemplate his commitment to this committee.

Next meeting; March 29, 2019

7. Adjourn – Motion proposed by Bill Wilkes, second by Karen Freed. Unanimously approved.