

Approved: October 30, 2020

**Town Center Committee
Minutes for the Meeting of September 18, 2020**

This meeting was held via the Zoom software program, with each participant remaining at home or in their offices

Present: Nelson Disco, Bill Cummings, Karen Freed, Finlay Rothhaus, Bill Wilkes, and Kyle Fox.

Excused: Matt Shevenell

Guest: Nicholas LaVallee

Minute Taker: Nelson Disco

June 26 Minutes

The Minutes of the TCC meeting of June 26 were approved on a motion by Finlay Rothhaus, seconded by Karen Freed, by a vote of 6-0-0. Because this was an electronic meeting, a roll-call vote was required which is recorded as follows: Bill Cummings, aye; Bill Wilkes, aye; Karen Freed, aye; Nelson Disco, aye; Finlay Rothhaus, aye; and Kyle Fox, aye.

Old Business:

The Status of establishing a TCC Facebook Page

This item was taken up first to allow Nicholas LaValley to leave for another meeting. Nicholas reported that he and Bill Wilkes had been unable to meet since the last meeting. Nick has drafted a proposal for a TCC Page for initial discussion. It was agreed to set up another meeting with Nick and Bill Wilkes to discuss further details on Friday, September 25 at 11:00 am. via Zoom. Nelson and other committee members may also attend.

Status of the Souhegan River Footbridge

DPW still prefers the option to replace the footbridge and are currently working with the NH State Park Service to possibly obtain funding for a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Project which could fund half the cost of the bridge. Application for a LWCF Grant is due at the end of October. Replacement cost is now estimated at \$660K). DPW is also working with the State to assess the applicability of this bridge replacement project to be included in the NHDOT Ten Year Plan (TYP).

Dawn Toumala, Town Engineer, has presented a proposal to the TTAC and it will be ranked with the other Ten Year Plan project submissions from other communities and hopefully be included in the next TYP.

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Status of the Souhegan River Trail. -

Kyle reported that Quantum Construction Consultants has been notified by NHDOT that another Cultural Resources Study must be done for this project. A Cultural Resources Study was previously completed for this project in June of 2017. This may delay the sign off of the design for construction which we believed was complete. The time frame for construction is now TBD. The Town and Consultant are working to avoid this delay by resubmitting the previous documentation.

Woodbury Street Sidewalk

The Woodbury Street Sidewalk was discussed and again received unanimous approval by the TCC for construction this year. It was noted that this project was moved up to next in line for construction in 2016 (after the Souhegan River Trail). A TAP grant was awarded to the Town in 2019 for this construction. This TAP Grant was later canceled by joint agreement with the NHDOT to reallocate the funds toward construction of the Souhegan River Trail. A memo written by Kyle Fox in November 2019 recommended construction of this sidewalk next among several projects. Funds were appropriated by the Town in the Town Meeting of 2020 to construct this sidewalk using budgeted Town funds. A roll call vote was taken at this meeting with all present in favor of proceeding with construction of the Woodbury Street sidewalk. (Kyle abstained from this vote.)

High School Master Plan

Matt Shevenell was not present for this meeting, but he reported to the Committee that work had not commenced on the School Master Plan because of the efforts required in dealing with Corona Virus issues.

Old Business

As noted in the TCC minutes of June 26, Watson Park remains closed to all public. The Town Council has directed that DPW install a 720 foot long chain link fence along the entire River and Brook frontage in the park, with a gate to the river.

Kyle reported that a letter of support from the TCC for the Souhegan River Footbridge is not needed at this time.

Nelson will prepare the TCC Annual Report to the Town Council for 2020 to be given via a Zoom meeting on October 22.

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Nelson reported that Peter Flood has advised that he will no longer be able to support the TCC and he has asked not to be re-appointed to the Committee.

There will be no Library Turkey Shoot this year.

Public Comments

There were no public comments received at this meeting.

Next Meeting – Set for 30 October 2020 - via Zoom.

Adjournment – Bill Cummings moved and Karen Freed seconded to adjourn at 1:25 pm. Approved 6-0-0. Roll call Vote: Bill Cummings, aye; Bill Wilkes, aye; Karen Freed, aye; Nelson Disco, aye; Finlay Rothhaus, aye; and Kyle Fox, aye.