

Approved: February 19, 2021

**Town Center Committee
Minutes for the Meeting of January 15, 2021**

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

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

Guests: Nicholas Lavalley and members of the Merrimack 275th Anniversary Committee: Chuck Mower, Matt Casparius, John Lastowka and Rosemarie Rung.

Minute Taker: Nelson Disco

December 4, 2020 Minutes

The Minutes of the TCC meeting of December 4 were approved on a motion by Bill Cummings seconded by Karen Freed, by a vote of 6-0-1. Because this was an electronic meeting, a roll-call vote was required which is recorded as follows: Bill Cummings, aye; Nelson Disco, aye; Karen Freed, aye; Bill Wilkes, aye; Matt Shevenell, aye; Kyle Fox, aye and Finlay Rothhaus abstained..

New Discussion:

In accordance with the amended agenda, the first topic of discussion taken up was a presentation to the TCC by Chuck Mower on behalf of the Merrimack 275th Anniversary Committee. Mr. Mower gave an explanation of the history of the Twin Bridges over the Baboosic Brook in the Twin Bridge Park and that his Committee is advocating modifying the current Twin Bridges to include a wooden covered roof over the bridges that currently exist in the Park. The presentation was very well received by all members of the TCC and it was agreed that the TCC Chairman would write a letter to the Merrimack Town Council supporting the concept of building such a structure which would tie directly into Twin Bridge Trails and connect to the Twin Bridge Road sidewalk, being recommended for construction in 2022.

Old Business Discussions:

5a. Regarding the TCC interface with the Library Master Plan Committee, Nelson reminded the TCC that the Town Manager had requested that we

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include TCC inputs into the planning process. Karen Freed will provide liaison as needed.

5b. No change to the status of the Souhegan River footbridge. (In next NHDOT Ten Year Plan)

5c. The NHDOT has now accepted the Archaeological study for the Souhegan River Trail as complete but has concerns regarding the disturbance of former wetlands by the trail crossing. It is hoped that we can pay a small impact fee to mitigate the wetland effects. A meeting has been scheduled with DPW and NHDOT to review the plan for handling pedestrian traffic during construction. DPW now hopes to be able to advertise for construction in August 2021.

5d. Woodbury Street survey work is now complete. More wetland has been encountered than originally estimated. Next steps are to report back to the Town Council and to negotiate an easement with the School Board.

5e. High School Master Traffic Plan is on hold until spring.

5f. Nicholas Lavallee reported that the TCC has now launched it's own Facebook Page. In the first couple of days we have got 139 "followers" and 92 "likes" on our page so far. Nick plans to update the page every Tuesday and Thursday using TCC materials from his archives. This page will have links to other Town based Facebook pages.

New Business

Due to the time expended on New Discussion, it was decided to defer discussion of New Business until Next month's TCC Meeting.

Public Comments

There were no public comments received at this meeting.

Next Meeting – Set for 19 February 2021 - via Zoom.

Adjournment – Bill Cummings moved and Karen Freed seconded to adjourn at 1:45 pm. Approved 6-0-0. Roll call Vote: Bill Cummings, aye; Nelson Disco, aye; Karen Freed, aye; Matt Shevenell; Kyle Fox, aye; Finlay Rothhaus, aye. Bill Wilkes had left the meeting