Town Center Committee Minutes for the Meeting of June 11, 2021

This meeting was held at 12:00 pm in the Matthew Thornton Meeting Room in the Merrimack Town Hall.

Present: Nelson Disco, Bill Cummings, Bill Wilkes, Kyle Fox, Nicholas

Lavallee and Karen Freed

Absent: Finlay Rothhaus **Excused:** Matt Shevenell

Minute Taker: Nelson Disco

April 16, 2021 Minutes

The Minutes of the TCC meeting of April 16 were approved on a motion by Kyle Fox seconded by Bill Wilkes by a vote of 6-0.

Old Business Discussions:

4a. Nelson Disco reported that the Merrimack Town Council at their meeting of May 13 had amended the charge of the Town Center Committee to include a representative from the Town Media Services Division. Nicholas Lavallee is currently filling this position.

4b. **Souhegan River Trail.** NH Department of Historical Resources (DHR) has approved our design approach and recommended several interpretive sign panels. They have commented on our retaining wall style, which we have clarified our intent to use a cobblestone finish which DHR seems to like.

Shoreland permit request for the Souhegan River Trail.

We still do not have approval for wetlands impact. We received a request for more information with 27 items of comment relative to our permit application. Most relate to the former wet meadow crossing from the fire station south to the existing trails in the wooded area. NHDES wants us to minimize impacts by utilizing an elevated boardwalk. We are exploring that as an option but it could increase project costs by \$400K. This would exceed our project cost cap and NHDOT could look for the Town to cover 100% of those costs. DPW is working with NHDOT to see what options are available to increase the project allocation since this is a change being required by a regulatory agency.

- **4c.** Plans for the Woodbury Street sidewalk are in final stages of preparation. SoRLAC and MCCC have reviewed the project and offered letters of support. We are almost ready to submit the Wetlands Application but we are now awaiting a return correspondence from the Natural Heritage Bureau.
- **4d.** High School Master Traffic Plan is still on hold. Needs support from newly elected School Board.
- **4e,f,g.** A video taped presentation on the Woodbury Street Sidewalk Project has been prepared by the Town Media Division and is available for public viewing on the following Facebook pages: Town Center Committee, Merrimack TV, and the Department of Public Works. The TCC has now launched it's own Facebook Page on the Merrimack web site. Nicholas is encouraging everyone to visit the page and if one has a Facebook page, click "share" on a post, and invite other townspeople to participate. The link to the video is; Facebook.com/Town Center Committee
- **4h.** Route 3 Bridge. DPW is now waiting for a Notice to Proceed with the Final Design of the Route 3/Baboosic Brook Bridge from the NHDOT and continues to explore applying for a FEMA BRIC Grant for funding the project.
- **4i.** No change to the status of the Souhegan River footbridge. (In next NHDOT Ten Year Plan)

New Business

There was no New Business discussed.

Public Comments

There were no public comments received at this meeting.

Next Meeting – Next regular TCC Meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 13, 2021, in the Matthew Thornton Meeting Room.

Adjournment – Bill Wilkes moved and Bill Cummings seconded the motion to adjourn at 1:00 pm. Motion approved 6-0.