



Town Center Committee
Revised Minutes for the Meeting of September 30, 2022

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

Present: Nelson Disco (chairman), Bill Cummings, Finlay Rothhaus, Kyle Fox and Justin Slez for the Media Dept.

Absent: Matt Shevenell, Karen Freed, Karen Contos, Michael Redding and Bill Wilkes

Minute Taker: Nelson Disco

August 19, 2022 Minutes

The Minutes of the TCC meeting of August 19, were presented and reviewed by the TCC. Two minor amendments were made to the draft prepared.

MOTION: Kyle Fox made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Finlay Rothhaus seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-1 with Justin Slez abstaining.

Old Business Discussions:

4a Status of TCC Maps recently completed by NRPC

Nelson handed out 8 ½ x 11 copies of the recently revised Town Center map. After discussions, it was determined that four additional changes were needed: Show the sidewalk from CVS through Buckley's as completed; Show sidewalk on Twin Bridge Road in red (needed); Show Abbie Griffin Park sidewalk as completed (yellow); Show East side of Route 3 from Frazier Square to Rite Aid cross walk in red (needed). Nelson will bring these changes to NRPC for inclusion.

4b Souhegan River Trail

Kyle Fox reported that NHDOT and the FHWA have given final approval to the design for the Souhegan River Trail. We can now proceed with construction of the Trail. Expect RFP to be issued by October 14, bid opening November 10 with award of construction contract to follow. We can also proceed to implement the construction inspection contract. It may be possible to start construction this winter.

4c High School Master Plan - no report available.

4d.. Status of TCC Facebook

Justin reported that the TCC Facebook page continues to attract new viewers and the page now has 540 followers.

4e. Town Center Video Taping

Justin reported that Town Center Video Taping has been delayed by other priorities. It is expected to pick up again in October. It was noted we would like to have some opening ceremony for the beginning of construction of the Souhegan River Trail. Also, we never filmed an opening ceremony for the Woodbury Street sidewalk.

4f. Route 3/Wire Road Safety Project.

Kyle noted that a “Local Concerns” Meeting was conducted by the Town’s engineering consultant, Quantum Engineering, on September 26. The Meeting drew no public participation and there were no local concerns raised. The engineering firm will now develop several alternate approaches for presentation at the next public hearing. This project is now combined with the Baboosic Brook/Route 3 Bridge reconstruction project.

4g. Route3/ Baboosic Brook Bridge. No changes since last meeting. Project combined with Wire Road Route 3 intersection.

New Business

5a. Annual Presentation to Town Council.

Nelson reported that he will be giving the TCC Annual Report to the Town Council on October 27. He suggested that topics to be covered include; Projects completed this year; Request for continued funding for Town Center sidewalks; Actions required for Church Street. Nelson stated that he would send an outline of his talk to the Committee Members and asked anyone on the Committee to send him any thoughts or ideas for additional topics.

[5b-Discussion of FEET widening; 5c -Turkey Shoot Support; 5d-Strategy to Advance Town Center plans.] [There was no discussion of these items. In a subsequent message from Karen Freed, it was reported that the Merrimack Public Library will not be sponsoring a Turkey Shoot this year. Nelson is looking to petition the Town Council for sidewalk funding but is cautious that the Town Council may not support our interests. Finlay reported that the Town Council is trying to balance budget and tax rate. He noted that the Town Council certainly sees the importance of sidewalks and the committee’s efforts, but it needs to address all priorities. Nelson asked

about a warrant article. Finlay noted it would be a reasonable request and encouraged Nelson to make it. Finlay further noted that Nelson should be prepared to provide a cost amount and if its not too large the Council would likely support it. Nelson asked members to consider what sidewalk pieces we should ask for in the warrant article.

Public Comments - There were no public comments received.

Next Meeting – Next regular TCC Meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 18, 2022, at noon in the Matthew Thornton Meeting Room.

Adjournment – MOTION: Kyle Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bill Cummings second the motion. **The motion passed 5-0-0.**