

**Town Center Committee  
Minutes for the Meeting of June 30, 2023**

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

**Present:** Nelson Disco (chairman), Dawn Tuomala, Nicholas Lavallee, Karen Contos, Finlay Rothhaus, and Bill Wilkes

**Absent:** Matt Shevenell

**Minute Taker:** Karen Contos

**April 28, 2023 Minutes**

**MOTION:** Nick made a motion to approve the minutes and Dawn seconded it. Approved as presented.

**Vote:** 4-0-2, abstaining Finlay Rothhaus and Bill Wilkes

**OLD BUSINESS**

**TCC Presentation to Merrimack Rotary Club, May 4, 2023**

Nelson reported that he spoke on what the committee was doing and answered questions. Bill Wilkes attended as well and said the presentation was well received.

**Souhegan River Trail**

Dawn reported that there were no new updates. October 2023 is the projected start date and parts have been ordered. The Committee requested that Dawn, together with the contractors, establish a target date for an SRHT ground breaking. (Oct ?)

**High School Master Plan**

Matt was not able to attend. For those not present at the last meeting, Nelson reported that the School Board has hired VHB to develop another master plan. Part of this plan will be putting sidewalks on O’Gara Drive.

**Town Center Committee Facebook Page and Town Center Video**

Nick reported that he received a suggestion to summarize the committee’s meetings after each one and put that on the Facebook page. He noted that the Media Department’s employee, Colin Mar, a Media Assistant, has found another job and will be leaving. A new employee has been hired and will start on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The Media Department have also hired a summer intern, Ross Corman O’Reilly, a recent MHS graduate.

Nick mentioned that he recently attended the Alliance for Media National conference in Brooklyn, New York. Merrimack TV received a National Award for Merrimack Moments, a community segment on the channel.

**Status of Route 3 / Wire Road & Baboosic Brook Bridge:**

Dawn reported that preliminary engineering is proceeding. She mentioned that she believes that Merrimack met a warrant that is required to put in the streetlight at Wire Road. There has to be a certain number of vehicles going through that intersection to get this warrant. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2025.

**NEW BUSINESS –**

**Support for 4<sup>th</sup> of July Pancake Breakfast**

Nelson, Finley, and Karen will attend at some point during the 8 to 11 am breakfast that will be held at Merrimack High School. Nelson would bring handouts and a large map of the Town Center area for residents to peruse.

**Prioritize Segments for NRPC help with Sidewalk Funding.**

Nelson passed out a handout to all committee members that he had created that listed the projects itemized on the current tri-fold brochure. Many projects have already been completed. We discussed the remaining projects in the handout and Dawn updated the committee. Many of the sidewalk construction projects that we have already prioritized are being covered by the Everett Turnpike Expansion as well as the Route 3 Wire Road/Baboosic Brook Bridge project.

Project number six on the list “West side of Route 3 Library to Wire Road”, will have crosswalks put on both sides of Route 3 as part of the Route 3 Wire Road/Baboosic Brooke Bridge construction project. To accomplish this, Church Street will have to be closed and the site graded. Dawn stipulated that Public Works would present this to Town Council in the near future.

Prior to our next meeting, Dawn will update Nelson’s handout and note if funding has been received and the estimated construction date for each. Then we will discuss the updated handout at the next meeting.

**Public Comments-** none

**Next Meeting-** Next regular TCC Meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 11, 2023, at noon in the Matthew Thornton Meeting Room.

**Adjournment –MOTION:** Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nick seconded the motion. **Vote: 6-0-0**