

Town of Proctor
Selectboard Bike/Ped Grant Application
Public Meeting Minutes
Draft
June 26, 2017
5:30 P.M. – 6:05 P.M.

Board Members Present:

Bill Champine, Chair
Bruce Baccei
Joe Manning
John Corliss
Tom Hogan

Employee Present

Stan Wilbur

Others Present:

Lisa Miser
Mary Fregosi
Steve Follett, Bike/Ped Scoping Committee
Dale Christie, Bike/Ped Scoping Committee
Rick Moreno, Bike/Ped Scoping Committee
Susan Schreibman, Grant Application Consultant
Peg TV

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. Approve Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda

III. VTrans Bike/Ped Grant Application Public Meeting

Chair Bill Champine read the Notice of Public Meeting and asked Susan Schreibman, the Town's consultant in preparing the grant application to describe the purpose of the meeting and the grant application process.

Susan Schreibman explained that the purpose of the public meeting is to discuss the proposed project and to obtain the views of citizens on the need and desirability of the path. She noted that in prior years there had been two opportunities for a bike/ped grant, however this year there is only one. The deadline for submitting the application is July 14.

The proposed project rebuilds the sidewalk on the west side of South Street from Grove Street to Main Street replacing 4-foot-wide bituminous concrete sidewalk with 5-foot-wide concrete sidewalk and 4-foot-wide marble sidewalk with 5-foot-wide marble inlaid concrete sidewalk. To be ADA-compliant the sidewalks have to be 5 feet wide.

Bill Champine asked about the chances of getting a grant. Susan Schreibman responded that she didn't know as the grant funding is limited and therefore very competitive. The application asks if the applicant could complete a portion of the project with partial funding. The marble sidewalk between the church driveway and Main Street is the key piece to keep pedestrians safe and could be constructed with partial funding. This would include replacing a portion of the existing asphalt sidewalk.

Lisa Miser, felt the scope of the project has changed since it was presented to the School Board. The

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School Board has sent a letter of support for the project and has also sent a letter expressing its concerns.

Mary Fregosi, expressed her desire to keep the marble sidewalks. She is not aware of anyone falling. She inquired if property owners along the proposed path had been notified of the loss of property. She questioned narrowing the road and suggested signs to share the road. She didn't like floating marble in concrete.

Steve Follett, Committee Member, stated that the committee had looked at different solutions and that it is time to replace the sidewalks, bite the bullet and do it. He also stated that it is possible no marble will be used on the sidewalk. That assumption was corrected by Susan Schreiberman who explained that the marble would need to be incorporated in the sidewalk.

Rick Moreno, Committee Member, noted that change is difficult. He was optimistic when he came to town for the community. The Town has missed 3 funding cycles. The canoe access proposed by GMP to meet FERC requirements has been turned down. With the canoe access, GMP could have been asked to build that portion of the sidewalk on town land. This could have been a net gain for the taxpayers. The longer we wait, we will lose.

Dale Christie, Committee Member, was involved in the Carriage Trail history. He is concerned about the tax base in town.

Bruce Baccei asked if five-foot sidewalks are required to receive funding; yes ADA requirement. He also asked how long it will be before we would hear if our grant is approved.

Susan Schreiberman referenced the short timeframe. Applications are due on July 14 and the town may hear back within a couple months. If successful it could take one year for design and with construction it could take a few years.

John Corliss, Selectboard Member, would like to see the project done. He is not a fan of marble sidewalks.

Susan Schreiberman reminded people that during the design process things could change. The proposal for marble inlay is based on the experience in other towns.

Tom Hogan, Selectboard Member asked if the marble slabs could be saved and put somewhere like the park. Dale Christie liked the park idea.

Lisa Miser had other questions; trees cut, location of new signs, travel lane widths, widened shoulders, marble inlay for maintenance. She noted her concern for narrowing the travel portion of the road, and questioned how the narrowing would be feasible along the marble wall, cemetery section of the road. She also inquired if a sign stating share the road could be posted at the entrance to town.

Mary Fregosi inquired as to the genesis of the project, was it for a bike path or sidewalk. It was explained that the project began as a bike path.

IV. Adjourn

Bruce Baccei made the motion at 6:05 p.m. to adjourn the June 26, 2017 Selectboard special public

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meeting. The motion was seconded by John Corliss and unanimously approved