

SAFEPATH MEETING

June 15, 2023

Macomber Room

Attendees: Committee: Mary Ann Driscoll, Nancy Borden, Dick and Emilie Spaulding, Philip Marcus, Pam and Guy Stearns, Jane Finn

Attendees: Nancy Jackson, David Myers, Mary Pat Gibson, Nancy Vailas, Barbara Kuchtey, Lisa English, Suzanne Brown, Cindy Yeaton, Terri Goulter, Peter Rice, Lee Ann Whalen

Mary Ann Driscoll called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

1. Review and approve minutes

Emilie made a motion to approve the Minutes. Nancy Borden seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2. Report on TAP: Mary Ann

In our May 11 meeting with DOT, we discussed the TAP section. DOT has a concern about putting a sidewalk without having 28' road width but this will continue to be explored. We asked them about the ledge at Shaw Circle and they are going to discuss at DOT to determine if that can be included in the project.

3. Report on The Commons: Mary Ann

We met with Rye Beach to discuss construction of the project from Tabbutt to Beach Hill. The contract was signed by the Selectboard. Ben Holmes from Rye Beach Landscaping will stake out the path on June 22. He will avoid trees, ledge and water to keep the cost low and to save as many trees as possible. We voted against having a bridge, which was very costly. A meandering, natural path was preferred. That may leave extra money for landscaping. We will get together with Ben to decide if we want the path tweaked and decide on a final path. Terri had gotten plans for a less expensive bridge and she will leave them with Mary Ann. A community clean up was proposed and will be determined at a later date.

4. Coast Guard property

The Application to the Bond Bank has been submitted.

5. 10 Year Plan: Mary Ann

On May 11 members from our committee met with DOT, representatives from Hoyle & Tanner who are designers hired by DOT, Rye DPW, Chris Robillard, and Jeff Hyland from Ironwood. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the location and scope of the project as identified in the Ten Year Plan: "Shoulders on NH1A in Rye from Seavey Creek Bridge to the south end of Odiorne Point State Park & 1B from NH1A to the Bridge. Sidewalks on NH1B from Wild Rose Lane to Beach Hill Road, & shoulders Wild Rose Lane to USCG Station." The DOT was surprised that we had done a right of way survey of 1B. Jeff gave a slide show presentation which was very helpful and forwarded the survey and presentation to DOT at their request. Since we are about to construct the part of 1B that was in the 10 year plan,

they will apply those funds to the next section. Two million dollars was allotted to this project and the funds will be split between New Castle and Rye. We will meet again in the fall after all the data has been collected and evaluated.

6. Causeway: Mary Ann

Marc Sorel, Pam Yonkin, Mary Ann, Nancy Jackson and Bill Stewart jumped into action on a week's notice when we were made aware of a federal grant that we could apply for to renovate the Causeway. They filed an application for 8.5 million to renovate the Causeway to include 2 bike lanes and a sidewalk. With many letters of recommendation, we have reached the next level in the approval process. We hope to hear by February.

7. Trust Account: Mary Ann

\$242,315.97 in trust account

\$50,000 in DPW Budget - Jane will confirm the amount left in this line item

Thanks to the generosity of the Borden family, we have received generous donations to the Safepath fund from David's obituary.

8. Public Questions and Answers:

Mary Pat ask why not continue the path through Pit Lane instead of Main Street to Cranfield. Mary Ann stated that the plan is to develop a safe way to get to town center. Pam stated that the overview is a first draft and will have many iterations before it is finalized. The Selectboard ask us to look at the ROW and get an architect to take a first look at it. That project is years away. Mary Pat stated that we should not spend money on a plan that may not happen.

Jane reported that Chief White suggested lights on the Safepath by the Wentworth that winds through the woods. We brought it up to Ben Holmes and he said it could be done relatively inexpensively. We will explore that and also whether we may need them on the Commons section.

Benches for the Commons section were discussed. Ben Holmes said he has some natural granite sections from foundations removed from the West End of Portsmouth. He will send photos. Terri ask us to be respectful of the neighbors when locating benches, trees, etc. Emilie volunteered to solicit people to donate money for benches/trees in memory of someone.

9. Adjourned:

Pam Stearns made a motion to adjourn the meeting Emilie seconded. Adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Next meeting:

Next Committee Meeting July 20, 4:30pm Macomber Room

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Finn

