

DIP Minutes 7/29/19

Meeting Commenced at 8:32 A.M.

In Attendance: Members: Ben Rossi, Gar Morse, Steve Carhart, Kirk Svetaka, and Chris Shea, Project and Facilities Manager Nate Desrosiers, Manchester Citizens Salvatore Loigcano and Linda Crosby

A moment of silence was held in honor of deceased Chairman, Andy Harris.

Minutes of DIP meeting held on 6/24/19 were approved.

As Linda Crosby was invited to potentially become a DIP member, we discussed the role and goals of the DIP. Ben explained our history and Kirk explained the comparative differences between our committee and the Bike & Ped Committee. Gar spoke to our role in reducing speed limits to improve safety in the downtown. Linda, a resident and property owner in the downtown was approved, to be recommended to the BOS, as a member of the DIP.

We discussed goals for this fiscal year. We hope to reintroduce plans for Phase II and Ben urged that we coordinate with other projects especially Complete Streets, The Town Green Remodeling and the Central Street Culvert Project. It was agreed that we speak with former member, Rick Gibson as to past plans and procedures for grant applications and funding. Chris suggested we should concentrate on the Union St. section. Nate mentioned that Sue Brown and Mary Reilly would be the town personnel responsible for writing grants. Kirk felt that we should put together a list of priorities – e.g. curbing, lighting, striping.

Nate told us that the new grant money for Complete Streets had not been approved as yet but seemed imminent. As soon as it's approved bids will be sent out. A discussion followed regarding asphalt vs concrete sidewalks. Ben was adamant that we should get bids for the concrete version. Under no circumstance should we complete a project only to rip it up and do it again.

We discussed the drain and curb issue at the corner of School and Union. We agreed the town should do something to rectify the situation immediately. This is also part of a larger drainage project in the area as well as the Complete Streets Project.

Kirk felt we should look at the bigger picture and have the old plans for Phase II available at our next meeting. Gar addressed the striping of the Union- Beach intersection. We should paint the Complete Streets proposed changes especially the center lines including the dotted line around the turn from Union onto Beach. Also the center line in front of Cargo Unlimited should finally be put in the appropriate spot. Gar made a motion to this effect which was seconded by Chris and approved. Steve addressed the striping on Bridge St. and will do a design for DPW. Gar made a motion to recommend the striping of Bridge ST. from Pine to Ashland which was seconded by Ben and approved.

We briefly discussed our past motion to increase the speed limit on School St from 128 to the Essex line from 25 – 35 MPH. DPW Director Chuck Dam will address the issue. Nate

indicated that the Central St. Culvert Project has gone to the state for review. Ben urged that the culvert be extended 3-4 feet upstream to provide more space for the sidewalk and roadway. The guardrails are still a major sticking point.

Steve Carhart was unanimously approved as Chairman of our committee.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 5th at 8:30 AM

Meeting adjourned 9:40 AM

Respectfully submitted
Chris Shea