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Complete Streets Committee Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Friday January 8, 2021
TIME SCHEDULED: 12:00 P.M. Noon
LOCATION: Remote Meeting via Zoom
MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Bloomfield, Chair (At-Large)
Ellen Moshier, Vice-Chair (At-Large)
Brendan Sullivan, Member (Planning Board)
Kevin Cafferty, Member (Pathway Committee)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Christopher Madden, Clerk (Recreation Commission)
Glenn Ferguson, (Highway Surveyor / Tree Warden)
Joseph Rull, Member (Board of Selectmen)

TOWN EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Kenneth Kirkland, (Town Planner)

Call to Order / Agenda

Chair Bloomfield moved and Vice-Chair Moshier seconded to start the meeting at 12:03 pm. The motion was approved 4-0-3 by a voice roll call.

Peter Bloomfield	Aye
Ellen Moshier	Aye
Christopher Madden	Absent
Brendan Sullivan	Aye
Kevin Cafferty	Aye
Joseph Rull	Absent
Glenn Ferguson	Absent

CSC Meeting Minutes

Chair Bloomfield moved and Vice-Chair Moshier seconded to approve the November 16, 2020 CSC Meeting Minutes. The motion was approved 5-0-2 by a voice roll call.

Peter Bloomfield	Aye
Ellen Moshier	Aye
Christopher Madden	Absent
Brendan Sullivan	Aye
Kevin Cafferty	Aye
Joseph Rull	Absent
Glenn Ferguson	Absent

Bills

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Citizen Commentary

Discussion

1. **MassDOT Complete Streets Grant: Tier 3 – Application:** Town Planner Kirkland indicated he received notice the Grant application deadlines were extended until November 2, 2020 and now anticipates notice from the State in late February (Valentine's Day) at the earliest.
2. **Main Street Pedestrian Improvement Project:**
 - a. **Phase 3A:** Town Planner Kirkland shared-screen the project's accounting spreadsheet, Highway Surveyor Ferguson stated there was about \$6,300 left, and stated there could be a few remaining, last minute invoices to come in. He stated that extra work could use the remaining funds, plus about half (\$10,000) of the available \$20,000 from the Pedestrian Improvement Fund. Town Planner Kirkland reminded the Committee of their Tier 3 Grant request, which is to supplement the existing work and get the sidewalk to Lincoln Street as intended.
 - b. **Phase 3B:** There was a lengthy discussion on how to proceed; Member Cafferty suggested a Town Meeting Article for the cost of the remaining stretch, approximately \$700,000 in the event other current funding requests are denied. Highway Surveyor Ferguson reminded the Committee that sidewalk funding requests were often subtracted from drainage or roadway improvement accounts, and stated that unless other federal help was coming, the funding would be tough. Town Planner Kirkland stated that Departmental budget requests, normally requested from the Town Administrator the week of Thanksgiving and provided the week before Christmas, still haven't been asked, and that funding for the following year could be limited, especially if the School Department makes large, COVID-related increases. He mentioned that other grant applications are in the works, and that figures would be determined in the coming weeks, but that a placeholder was a simple request when the Warrant opens. Chair Moshier and Member Cafferty expressed the importance of keeping the momentum, and it was decided to have a placeholder of \$700,000 inserted in the Warrant when the time comes.
3. **MassDOT Shared Streets & Spaces Grant Program:** Town Planner Kirkland stated the State's denial feedback was not based on the proposal itself, but rather factors such as environmental justice populations, high COVID-19 risk status, and hybrid projects that meet multiple project goals. There was a discussion regarding other projects that could use the Grant money. Member Cafferty suggested the Phase III boardwalk, which Highway Surveyor Ferguson has sought CPC funding to complete. It was discussed that perhaps the unique, "off-road" aspect, closer proximity to Town Center, and recreational aspects would garner a more

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favorable consideration from the State. The Committee requested Town Planner Kirkland to discuss and coordinate the Cost Estimate with Highway Surveyor Ferguson for the next meeting on January 22.

4. **Assinippi Corner, Merchant Row 2.0:** No Discussion.
5. **Open Space & Recreation Plan:** Pathway Committee member Heather Hanley presented the Committee with the newly revised Open Space & Recreation Plan, and discussed in particular, Goal 2, which is “Provide a Safe and Convenient Pedestrian and Bicycle Network.” After a brief discussion, in which it was mentioned that “State Grants” could be added as a funding source to the Plan, the Committee unanimously voted to have Town Planner Kirkland write a letter of support on the Committee’s behalf.

Chair Bloomfield moved and Member Cafferty seconded to forward a letter of support on behalf of the Complete Streets Committee for the Open Space & Recreation Plan. The motion was approved 5-0-2 by a voice roll call.

Peter Bloomfield	Aye
Ellen Moshier	Aye
Christopher Madden	Absent
Brendan Sullivan	Aye
Kevin Cafferty	Aye
Joseph Rull	Absent
Glenn Ferguson	Absent

Miscellaneous

Adjournment

Chair Bloomfield moved and Vice-Chair Moshier seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:11 pm. The motion was approved 5-0-2 by a voice roll call.

Peter Bloomfield	Aye
Ellen Moshier	Aye
Christopher Madden	Absent
Brendan Sullivan	Aye
Kevin Cafferty	Aye
Joseph Rull	Absent
Glenn Ferguson	Absent

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NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: January 22, 2021 – 12 P.M., **Remote via Zoom**

These minutes have been approved with reading of the minutes by the Norwell Complete Streets Committee at a public meeting duly noticed and held on 3/5/2021 in accordance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.



Date: 3/5/2021

Kenneth Kirkland, Town Planner

Pursuant to Board vote on May 22, 2020, for duration of State of Emergency

Copy filed with: Office of Town Clerk
 Complete Streets File

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