

Paths Committee Meeting Notes November 14, 2016

Members attending: Wendy Saville, Chris Trapeni, Kevin Boehmke, Marc Gamble, Susan Dunning, Joplin James

Staff attending: Dean Pierce

Public:

Executive Summary:

The Path committee met on November 14 and discussed the status of the Bay Rd underpass. The Selectboard voted to stop the pilot project with the one way underpass and two stop signs. A new traffic pattern was proposed with two stop signs and two way traffic through the underpass. The committee discussed why the map was removed from the Selectboard approval. It will need to be updated and resubmitted during the next year. The CCRPC is still looking for feedback on their regional transportation plan. [Click here to see the plan.](http://www.ccrpcvt.org/our-work/our-plans/regional-bikeped-plan/)

<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/our-work/our-plans/regional-bikeped-plan/>. The committee elected Marc Gamble to be the committee chair. The committee discussed the Village Safety Group and their plans for improving pedestrian safety. We support their work. The committee will present to the Selectboard on December 14 as part of the years CBC presentation. The next Paths committee meeting will be December 12.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by at 7:04 pm.

November meeting notes were approved.

Add Agenda Items - Discuss Falls Rd Pedestrian group, Southern Gateway and Selectboard meeting about CBC (Committee, Boards and Commissions) we are on the calendar at 12:30. Agenda changes approved.

Status of Bay Rd Underpass

On November 8 the Selectboard rejected the current pilot project and asked for another traffic flow change. The new change was proposed by a resident in this meeting. The next day, Ann told Sai about this possible change. Ann started the change immediately. Now there will be two way traffic with stop signs at both ends. The idea is to slow down traffic but still allow two lanes. Ann also updated the website with new traffic pattern. New signs will still need to be updated. The town will need to remove the "One Way" and add some "New Traffic Pattern" signs. Marc asked about this change. Do we think it makes the intersection worse or better for bikes and pedestrians? He believes that this change is nearly as safe. Susan believes that there is more traffic and more cross traffic. The queue times show this and may not necessarily be due to the stop signs. We will have some TODOs for this. If this new traffic pattern does get approved, do we end up back to the original traffic pattern? We are wondering why the Selectboard voted it down for 5-0. Susan thinks the inconvenience of a few trumps safety for all. No one from our

committee attended, we would need to look at Selectboard minutes to see what public discussion happened.

Map

Marc feels like we didn't have the votes and if we removed the map from the approval process, we could get Shelburne Heights. He didn't want to advocate for each individual path, it would be too arduous. The purpose of the map was to show intent for future grants yet we have gotten grants in the past without using the map. Marc believes that our time could be better spent doing something else. Kevin is a bit disappointed - we have done a lot of work on this. He thinks we should have an updated map. Joplin says the work isn't wasted. Marc would like to see a map with just the most feasible paths listed. He thinks we couldn't keep the two private trails (Boulder Hill to Longmeadow through the Farrell land and a Beach path through Museum land) Marc thinks that the current map isn't even used - as referenced by our confusion over which version of the map is current. Dean said that the map is referenced throughout the town plan and the table is more heavily used. Bigger picture - last time the plan was updated on a 5 year plan, the next will be every 8 years. The plan WILL need be updated in the next year. Wendy thinks we should differentiate town ROW and private trails. Make make the "hopeful" ones a different color or something. CCRPC did something similar with their map. The current map will be the standard, but we will need to get this updated when the town plan gets updated within a year. Rob always tried to get items in the CIP and didn't focus on the map.

CCRPC Regional Bike Plan

Does anyone have any more feedback on his plan? The new deadline is December 1. We should individually add our input to this plan. Peter Keating just wants an email with feedback. Marc will be sending his input. We could get other residents to give input. Ruth Hagerman posted something on FPF about Irish Hill - maybe she should write the CCRPC with her thoughts on Irish Hill. This section of road is on the plan as medium feasibility, medium priority.

Officers

Marc is burned out. Anybody else want to do it? Joplin would like Marc to stay as Chair, but back off and delegate more. Ann mentioned something Sai wants to do with Bay Rd and he doesn't have the time. He needs a Bay Rd point person. Wendy is point person on Southern Gateway. She feels like it is more political. She feels like we need someone who knows more about how things work in town government. Joplin motioned that Marc continue. He will delegate more. Other members will step up to do less public speaking roles.

Bylaw text was shared with Kate. She presented long version of this to board. PC has discussed them. It is moving in a positive direction.

Ped Safety Group

There is a neighborhood group wants to make the area of Falls Rd safer. Should we interface with them? Marc's opinion is to let them run with it. They should know we support them. Susan asked what their goal. Dean said much of their work is short term traffic calming. The long term

plans could be expensive. Is the Village Safety Committee the neighborhood group? Wendy will call Jane, who is a member of that group and talk to them. Dean says agreeing on priorities is important, but the total money available isn't growing, its still fixed. Wendy thinks we are doing little work on bike infrastructure due to our focus on pedestrian infrastructure. Our DPW doesn't focus on bike issues and seems to be car centric.

Southern Gateway

There is a PPT presentation - Wendy will send it to us. There are many options and phases. Vermont Teddy Bear (VTB) to Ridgefield would be the last phase. First concern is getting VTB workers who ride the bus to work. Another concern is pedestrians crossing from Fiddlehead to Vineyard. We want a better presentation to tourists as they come into town from the south. Dean said that there will be more growth on that site - up to 10 more buildings could be built.

CBC report

December 14th at 12:30 in the afternoon is our CBC presentation to the Selectboard. Marc noticed that the CBC report shares time with the "Village Safety Committee" and Town Highway Dept. We don't have a dedicated 30 minutes. Should we petition to have our own 30 minutes? Marc says last CBC presentation produced nothing. If we have anything to add, we should tell Marc. Susan would still like to see the Bay road bike lane pitched. Its needed. Marc wants to know what kind of expenditures are likely to happen. Should we back off for awhile . Dean says to stick with the capital plan. We want all current year projects to be in the budget. Dean will send us the CIP. [Here is the link](#). Kevin asked if we reply all to any email with our group, don't we break the rules? Dean said that is true, but we can discuss things with committee members if its a less than quorum number.

Planning Retreat

Sometime in January we will sit down for an hour to discuss priorities. Kevin will put together an agenda.

Eagle Scout Project

Nate talked with Gail. He is going to work on the path from the Shelburne Bay Access Area lot to the town marina. Peg R is working with him. This path has many braids and he will work to delineate it.

December meeting:

December 12

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45.

THE WRITTEN MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING. MOTIONS ARE AS STATED BY THE MOTION MAKER. MINUTES SUBJECT TO CORRECTION BY THE SHELBURNE BIKE AND PED PATHS COMMITTEE. CHANGES, IF ANY, WILL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE.

