



**TOWN OF  
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

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***Sidewalk and Trail Planning Group  
Minutes  
July 25, 2016***

Meeting opened at 6:30pm.

**Attendees**

Jordan Bailey, Roy Wallen, Cheryl O'Donnell, Jay Kramarczyk, Ron Pelletier, Alan Rosenberg, Tad Putney.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the June 20th meeting were approved as written.

**Pedestrian Bridge Estimate**

Tad shared an email received from Quantum Consultants, a bridge engineering firm that is assisting the town in assessing the costs for replacing the Bond Street bridge. They provided a rough estimate for a 100-foot pedestrian bridge at the Grove of around \$600,000, including engineering. It would need to be 10 feet wide. This is twice the estimate included in the Town's Letter of Intent for the current grant opportunity.

The Group discussed placing the pedestrian bridge on the other side of Mason Road, which would require about a 70-foot bridge, which Quantum estimates at a cost of closer to \$300,000 given a similar bridge in Merrimack cost \$200,000 in 2007, excluding engineering. The Group decided to pursue locating the shorter bridge on the south side of Mason Road. Jay suggested having the bridge cross to the fire department access road to avoid the current ditch line that exists right next to the bridge. Tad will discuss this approach with Jerry Farwell and try to get input from other engineering resources in advance of the next meeting.

**Current Mason Road Bridge**

Tad said he reviewed the 1931 plans for the current bridge. Jay asked that we check with the state on the expected life remaining on the bridge. Tad will contact NHDOT.

**Crosswalks Near Town Hall**

Tad explained that a Selectboard member has asked that the Group come up with a recommendation for what crosswalks are optimal for aiding pedestrians in crossing Bond Street and Meetinghouse Hill Road. Cheryl suggested an "L" approach that

crosses Bond Street and Meetinghouse Hill Road to connect the existing sidewalks. The Group will discuss this when it meets with Jerry Farwell.

**Outline for 2016 Report**

Tad shared an outline of major topic areas for the 2016 Plan update. There was agreement on its general content.

**Discussion Regarding Public Input**

It was agreed that a key component to the updated Plan will be public input. After some discussion, it was agreed that the public input would be gathered through the following steps:

- *Mid-August:* Send a letter to all abutters of the six projects that were identified at our first meeting to advise them of the potential project and invite them to complete our survey. A customized letter will be sent to those along South Main Street that a sidewalk grant is currently being applied for along that street.
- *Second week in September:* Include in the EDC Newsletter information about our upcoming Public Input Session and sidewalk/trail survey. Have survey out via various electronic media.
- *Third week in September:* Hold public information session and publicize survey.
- *End of September:* Close out the survey and compile the results.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. We will meet at the covered bridge parking lot on Mason Road to discuss the pedestrian bridge with Jerry Farwell. The meeting will then continue at the town hall and focus on:

- Discuss new crosswalks in front of town hall with Jerry
- Discuss assumptions for ongoing maintenance costs for sidewalks with Jerry, including repaving
- Review draft letter to abutters (drafted by Tad)
- Review survey questionnaire (drafted by Jay)
- Review content for EDC Newsletter (drafted by Tad)

Meeting concluded at 7:30pm.

Minutes submitted by Tad Putney.