



BRISTOL BYWAYS COMMITTEE
(formerly Bicycle Pedestrian Committee) Minutes
Monday, January 13th, 2020, 6:30 pm – Town Office

Introduction of present members and non-present members:

Present: Jim Albright, Lindsay Currier (Town Staff Liaison), Jack Fitzpatrick, John Lappen, Chuck Farrell, Sandra Lucore, Mary Piasecki, Patricia Porter (Chair), Todd Richards. Apologies: Christopher Hall (Town Administrator), Emile Lugosch. Guests: Steven Cole (Maine Department of Transportation), Elswyth Strassberger (Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission)

The meeting was called to order by Chair P Porter at 6:30pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by C Farrell and seconded by J Lappen to **approve the minutes of December 16, 2019**. Motion passed 6-0

Review of Byways Plan Action Items pertaining to MDOT:

Rt 66 Snowmobile Crossing Signs

BB is requesting 6 state and 6 town signs. Step one in the process is to apply to the State Dept of Conservation. (L Currier has this application). If signs meet the 2009 standards the town may purchase from a source other than DOT at a slightly lower cost.

Old Long Cove Road Bypass

S Cole confirmed that DOT would not be likely to support the renewal of this road for purposes other than for recreation.

Additional mobile speed feedback signs

Previous signs were made available by Lincoln County Sherriff for special events. A MDOT sign is on the way and the committee is requesting at least one more. S Cole will check on the availability.

Speed studies of state roads

E Strassberger presented her 2-part plan to address new methods for speed setting in Lincoln County. A white paper will review the current method (the 85% of actual speed) and alternatives in use in other communities. The second piece is a local study for which we are the subject as we have already defined our corridors. A discussion of changing the 'culture' regarding motorist's speed ensued. C Farrell offered that we need a long-term study as conditions from summer to winter vary so much; and posed the question as to whether MDOT will allow us to conduct this. E Strassberger offered that

the regional planning commission has the training and funding for this. S Cole will pursue the possibility of the LCRPC conducting local speed studies in Bristol. E Strassberger offered ideas regarding outreach to the summer community via business marketing materials, as well as pursuing companies of trucks that routinely violate speed limits.

Bristol Consolidated School/Library

S Cole explained that the 'Safe routes to school' funding has been subsumed into the DOT's 'Bike and Pedestrian Program'. There is over 2 million dollars to be distributed, applications for these grants are due in August. Patrick Adams oversees this program for the State of Maine. It is S Cole's opinion that the project involving the school to library route would be very expensive and that may make it less likely to be funded. E Strassberger will follow up on the bill in the legislature to re-direct unspent DOT funds to towns. It was suggested that the town engage an engineering firm for a feasibility study and cost estimate for any project prior to applying for funds.

Village Crossings/Bike Lanes/ Sharrows

E Strassberger informed the group that research shows that painted bike lanes do not increase safety; to do so requires the bike lane to be physically separated from the auto lane. As well, sharrows have no research to attest to their efficacy. Her advice is to address the speed issue and then the bike lanes. She also stated that 'gateway treatment' of roadways entering villages is more effective. We are referred to Whitefield as an example of a small community who came together to create a comprehensive plan for traffic calming.

Hardy Boat Pedestrian Safety Rt 32

All agreed on the special challenge here for those walking from Hardy Boat parking to the wharf. T Richards suggested that special signage in conjunction with Hardy Boat might help direct pedestrians and alert autos.

Byways Plan Discussion

Suggestions were made by C Farrell for changing the title of the plan and changing the icons on page one. These items were tabled until next meeting.

C Farrell also prepared a synopsis of the plan for presentation to the Budget Committee, like the document L Currier presented to the Selectboard December 18th. C Farrell's document will be circulated among members for feedback.

E Strassberger requested that any member wishing to attend a Community Spokes program sponsored by the Bicycle Coalition of Maine in Damariscotta email her at estrassberger@lcrpc.org.

Next meeting will be held Tuesday February 18, 6:30 at the town hall.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm made by C Farrell, Second by P Porter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Piasecki, Secretary 12/17/2019