

Town of Kent – Streetscape Committee
Regular Meeting – December 9, 2017

Present: Rick Osborne, David Bain, Bruce Adams, Mike Everett, Catherine Bachrach, John Casey, Jim Blackketter, Steve Wolf

The meeting was convened at 8 a.m. by chairman Mike Everett. The minutes of the October 11 Special Meeting, October 19 Special Meeting and November 18 Special Meeting were approved on a motion by John Casey and second by Jim Blackketter.

Public Communication: There was none.

Report on Main Street Grant/\$500,000: Bruce reported that the Kent grant request was one of the few approved at the 11/29/17 CT Bond Commission meeting. The date of the release of the funds is unclear, but everyone agreed that the committee should use the winter months to prepare. One of the key questions is what can be accomplished with that grant and \$100,000 in the Town budget, as well as is it realistic to expect that residents would support a bond measure to complete the project?

Bruce read from a letter from Vince McDermott from Milone and MacBroom, the consulting firm that put together the original plan, which estimates how much of the Main Street sidewalk construction could be accomplished with the grant, based on granite curbing and concrete sidewalks. Committee members agreed that it would be most cost effective to do both sides of Route 7 from the monument to the railroad tracks at the same time. (Bruce reported that there has been no action on the Community Connectivity Grant request of \$400,000 and that grant cycle may be on hold.)

Preparation for Town Meeting: Committee members agreed that the January 13 Streetscape meeting would be a two-hour block, from 8 to 10 a.m. in preparation for a Town Meeting to approve the plan. Members will individually review the plans prior to that meeting and come with suggestions for any changes/updates. At its December meeting, the Board of Selectmen requested a report from the Streetscape Committee; Mike will make a presentation at the January 2nd meeting.

John will contact USDA to determine if there are any funds available to help in their budget. Catherine will review the Streetscape files, especially Dick Lindsey's early files, and put together a time-line of the committee's work and a list of issues/concerns raised by the public at the earlier community meeting.

Status of Short-term projects: Committee members reviewed the list of short-term improvements discussed with DOT engineer Gina Greenalch, including striping on the highway near the monument corner and near crosswalks, traffic-slowing "your speed" signs and the PATCO sidewalk. The committee will continue to work on these issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 on a motion by Jim. **The next meeting is Saturday, January 13 at 8 a.m.**

Catherine Bachrach, Secretary

These are draft minutes and the Streetscape Committee may make corrections at its subsequent meeting.
Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval of these minutes.

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