

Town of Kent – Streetscape Committee
Regular Meeting – February 10, 2018

Present: Mike Everett, John Casey, Rick Osborne, Jim Blackketter, Catherine Bachrach, Bruce Adams, John Johnson

The meeting was convened at 8:05 a.m. by Chairman Mike Everett. The minutes of the January 13 Regular Meeting and January 20 Special Meeting were approved on a motion by Jim Blackketter and second by John Casey. On a motion by John Casey and second by Jim Blackketter, members voted to invite John Johnson to join the committee and to ask the Board of Selectmen to formally appoint him to the committee at their March meeting. There was no public communication.

Mike Everett will make a presentation to the Kent Informal Club on Wednesday, February 14 at 2 p.m. Members are invited to attend. Bruce reported on a NW Council of Government meeting on February 5 concerning traffic safety, attended by five selectmen, the Troop B commander and Aron Steeves and Mark Carlino from DOT and organized by State Rep. Brian Ohler. Speed and pedestrian safety were the main issues. Catherine reported on conversations with Salisbury First Selectman Curtis Rand, Lakeville Journal publisher Janet Manko and Falls Village's road foreman, Tim Downes, about safety concerns, snow removal from crosswalk bump-outs and related issues.

Bruce noted that a UCONN Traffic Safety representative met with a COG group and that CT Connectivity grant decisions may have been made but have not been announced.

The committee reviewed the PowerPoint slide show and discussed the March 6 presentation to the BOS and a later town-wide presentation. On a motion by Rick and second by Mike, the committee agreed to ask that the BOS take the following actions:

- Accept the conceptual scheme for sidewalk and other streetscape improvements;
- Request authorization by the Board of Finance to use the \$100,000 in the Town's Capital Plan for costs related to moving forward.
- Take the plan to a Town Meeting for an informational presentation and vote to approve, including an estimated cost and scope of project.

The presentation to the BOS will include the estimated range of cost of the project and impact on taxpayers if USDA funds are accessed.

Specifics of the stripped down/simplified plan as adopted by the Streetscape Committee:

1. Brushed concrete sidewalks not less than 5 feet wide to meet ADA requirements with granite curbing approximately six inches high, with an option of one row of brick edging between the concrete and granite where space permits. (Motion by Mike, second by John Casey.)
2. Buried conduit strip underground for LED sidewalk lights/lampposts. (Motion by Mike, second by Jim.)
3. From the railroad crossing to the traffic light, the existing road width will not be reduced, to maximize the width of parking spaces. (Motion by John Casey, second by Jim.)
4. The existing crosswalks at the traffic light, library, school crossing on Bridge Street, Congregational Church and between Kent Wine and Spirits and Kent Town Center will remain. Additional crosswalks near the Fife and Drum and area of Giffords will be added. (Motion by Catherine, second by Jim.)
5. Modified bump-outs will be provided at each of the locations where practical to ensure pedestrian safety. (Motion by Mike, second by Jim.)
6. Lower the speed limit to 25 miles per hour from Cobble Lane to South Common Road on Route 7 and the Kent School Hockey Rink to the Town Garage on Route 341 (Motion by Catherine, second by Jim.)

Bruce agreed to keep pressure on the utility companies to reduce unnecessary wires and remove double poles (at least four in the center of town). It was agreed that all committee members will try to attend the 4:30 p.m. March 6 Board of Selectman meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 on a motion by Jim and second by John Casey.

Respectfully submitted,

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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