

Camden Rockport Pathways Committee
Minutes of Meeting December 3, 2014
Rockport Town Office

Attendance: Ken McKinley, Robert Davis, Helen Shaw, Anita Brosius-Scott, Richard Stetson, Leni S. Gronros

Guest: Owen Casas

October Minutes – approved as written

Rural Active Living Assessment (RALA) – Rodney Lynch presented Leni with a copy of the RALA report completed by the town. It was circulated around the group and discussed on the possibilities. It is hoped this will open grant opportunities for projects in the future.

Owen Casas was attending as a guest but agreed part way through the meeting to join the group. We will ask Staci to send him an application. Some time was spent during the meeting to update Owen on the history of the committee and the projects undertaken in the past and what we are looking forward to in the future.

Rockport Select Board presentation Monday December 8, 2014. - The select board has asked the committee appear before them at their December 8th meeting to present our priorities for the coming year and what we have been working on lately. These are the points we decided to have Leni bring up:

Present a copy of the report made to the Capital Improvements Committee last spring.

Points to make:

At the last Broadband meeting in Rockland Robin Macintosh brought up the point that while this area is sought out as a place to live and possibly work remotely some amenities like walk ability and bike paths are rated very low. This is one of the factors that young people with families look at when looking for a place to relocate.

We have been asked to compile a list of pathways for a new Rockport website visitrockportmaine.com. That list is being worked on and if a path is on private property we are acquiring permission from the owners to list this property. In the spring photos of these paths (Anita has volunteered to take the photos) will be added to the listing.

Current online listings of pathways in the area is scattered and incomplete.

A sidewalk survey was completed in the spring and a copy of that was given to Rodney Lynch and used to complete the RALA (Rural Active Living Assessment) for Rockport. A copy will be forwarded onto the public works department for their use.

Anita brought up the example that Camden puts a line in the annual budget to build up a nest egg to be used when matching grant opportunity become available. This fund could build each year and allow us to move quickly when the opportunity presents itself.

From the Capital Improvements Committee presentation:

The following sidewalk projects are listed by priority by the Camden-Rockport Pathways Committee, starting with the greatest need.

1. An extension of the existing sidewalk along the south side of outer Elm Street (in Camden) from Camden Street to the traffic signal at Hannaford's, to the Concord Trailways Bus Depot (Maritime Farms gas station) and beyond to connect to Country Inn Way allowing access to the hotel, the music store and restaurant south of the gas station. This includes a crosswalk at Camden Street and a pedestrian crossing signal at the Hannaford's intersection (Grant application in process) (2016)
2. Rte 90 Phase I – create multi-use path from Rte 1 Signal to CHRHS (2015)
3. Rte 90 Phase II -- extend exiting West Street sidewalk to Rt 1 Signal; add pedestrian controlled crossing at Rte 1 Signal (2016)
4. Rte 90 Phase III - extend multi-use path from CHRHS to West Rockport (2018)
5. Pascal – Repair elevated sidewalk as needed ~ defer to Public Works evaluation

From the sidewalk survey

Priorities suggested by committee

1. West Street – mirroring the priorities of the Capital Improvements report
2. Warrenton Ave – road narrows going over culvert. Dangerous for bikers and walkers
3. Russell Ave – safer sidewalk/path along the road by Aldemere.
4. Limerock St - with the recent tree damage take the opportunity to reconstruct the existing sidewalk or better yet relocate further from the street and improve the parking.
5. Union St. – cross walk needed to Grove St.
6. Route 1 – Near Cottage Consignment there is a broken pole. Power poles are in the middle of the sidewalk along this stretch limiting use.
7. Rt 90 – looking at mapping the path to the schools. Crossing from Erickson Field to School side of street, possible tunnel crossing.

QCP Grant – No updates received. Anita will touch base with Select Boards and Town managers to get an update on progress.

Ken suggested we invite Jamie Francomano to our January meeting. Leni will invite.

Midcoast Transit Report – no change, recommend removing from agenda

Camden Master Plan - up for review December 11, 2014 5pm. Committee members were asked to review and get their comments to Geoff.

Rockport Master Plan – As this plan is out of date and not complete Ken suggested a workshop and to incorporate recent changes. Leni will look at scheduling a date in January in conjunction with Ken.

DRAFT

