

TOWN OF STOW  
COMPLETE STREETS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the January 9, 2019 Complete Streets Committee Meeting

Members Present: Karen Kelleher, Joe Landry, Mike Clayton, Jim Salvie, Kathy Sferra

Absent: Margie Lynch, Bill Bosworth

**Discussion of Meeting Minutes**

**Minutes of November 27, 2018**

*Joe Landry moved to approve the minutes as written.*

*Kathy Sferra seconded.*

**VOTED: 5-0 in favor (Karen Kelleher, Joe Landry, Mike Clayton, Jim Salvie, Kathy Sferra- Yea).**

**Minutes of November 30, 2018**

*Kathy Sferra moved to approve the minutes as written.*

*Mike Clayton seconded.*

**VOTED: 5-0 in favor (Karen Kelleher, Joe Landry, Mike Clayton, Jim Salvie, Kathy Sferra- Yea).**

**Work Plan**

Joe Landry said the Town Administrator is considering reinstating the Traffic Working Group, made up of representatives from the Fire, Police, Highway, and Planning Departments as well as a liaison to the Board of Selectmen. The working group would collect and review traffic data to better inform the Town's responses to resident complaints and to help prioritize road improvement projects. The working group could fund or recommend funding of projects town-wide that either MassDOT will not fund, or isn't likely to fund, such as advisory signage.

Jim Salvie said he feels that the Town does not currently have a system in place to adequately respond to resident concerns and the traffic data the working group could collect would assist in this effort.

The Complete Streets Committee discussed their ability to respond to resident complaints and to fund projects outside of MassDOT's program. The Committee agreed they would be able to incorporate any data collected, such as speed and volume counts and accidents data, into their recommendations.

In order to better respond to resident concerns, the Committee agreed to meet regularly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 3pm. The Committee also agreed that outreach materials should be created to communicate the types of projects listed on the Prioritization Plan by neighborhood, street, or type of intervention.

### **Assabet River Rail Trail**

Kathy Sferra said the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) talked about the CPA appropriation for the Track Road and Assabet River Rail Trail (ARRT) design. In 2014, the CPC appropriated \$46,000 as a local match to be used with state or federal funds for design. Kathy Sferra said she feels the Committee should discuss how to advance Stow's ARRT connection, as there are multiple interests in the project. The Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge recently named a new director, providing the opportunity to continue discussions of a path through the refuge. The Committee should also consider the interests of the owner of Crow Island Air Park, and the recent completion of Maynard's section of the ARRT at Stow's doorstep. Kathy Sferra asked if the Committee feels the money should be repurposed or if the funding should still be used for the design of Track Road.

Jesse Steadman said the Committee could consider beginning due diligence into additional options for making rail trail connections, especially as the Prioritization Plan identifies improvements along White Pond Road as well. The design could be more flexible if the connection is not an official rail trail, so that federal funds are not needed.

The Committee agreed that a design study would be a beneficial next step, so that all options of design, location, and funding are considered. The CPC funding could be rescinded as matching funds for the ARRT design, and re-appropriated for a study of Track Road.

### **Meeting Adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Oorthuys