

***Town of York ~ Village Revitalization Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes ~ February 14, 2019
York Public Library ~ Wheeler Room***

Present: Stephen Carr, Stu Dawson, Toni DeSoto, Chris Hartwell, Dean Lessard,
Ron McAllister, Dylan Smith, Pete Smith

Absent: Dan Poulin, Brent Drennan, Mike Estes, Scott Stevens

Guest: Leah Drennan

1. Committee Chair, Chris Hartwell called the meeting to order at 4:05pm.
2. Meeting minutes for October 18, 2018 were approved as written.
3. Chris welcomed Stu Dawson back as "member emeritus" to the great pleasure of the group.
4. The group discussed installing a new plaque for the monument to include a brail translation.
5. Dean reported that he had been in contact with Regina and the design is moving along slowly although the PDR has not yet been submitted.
6. Maine DOT has questioned the plan for removal of trees which, at the least, indicates that they are actively reviewing the plan. We will be removing three significant trees, but adding many more in other areas.
7. Dean also noted that he had met with the utility companies and they have begun their estimating although he hasn't heard anything back from them yet. He added that when he met with the utilities they admitted that, even though they were the ones who requested payment for doing the work, they don't have any mechanism for charging us, so they will likely end up doing the work for free.
8. Chris reported that she had presented her committee report to a recent BOS meeting. The selectmen all seem to be on board with getting estimates from the utilities for burying the cables and with setting aside funds to pay them to do so. They agreed that the first priority would be the village center area followed by the section from the village westward to the museum. Dean added that the BOS seemed to be comfortable with a cost somewhere between one and two million dollars. It was further clarified that installing empty conduit in anticipation of future underground cabling was not a feasible option.
9. Chris reported that Dean also gave a presentation to the BOS on the latest version of the on-street parking plan which will result in additional parking spaces in the village area and that she had followed it with a brief presentation for our plan to perform a "parking study" with village merchants and residents. Dean added that at another meeting there was discussion of the potential for expanding the use of fee collection kiosks to support pay-for-parking in various town locations including the village.
10. Chris noted that, as part of their application to the Planning Board, the town has been offered an easement to add new trails to the existing trail network throughout and surrounding the Davis property.
11. Chris reported that Bill Lord has withdrawn from the committee for personal reasons. It was proposed that, if possible, representation from the hospital, museum, or historical society should be recruited first.
12. Our next regular meeting will be at 4:00pm on Thursday, March 21st at the York Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35pm

Respectfully submitted, Peter Smith, Secretary