



# Route 100 Committee

## Wednesday, October 14, 2015

### Minutes

#### Committee/Staff Attendance:

Name	Present	Name	Present	Name	Present
Sarah Boudreau	√	Eydie Pryzant	-	Joe McDonnell	√
Andrea Ferrante	-	Rebecca Grover	√	Steve Melchiskey	√
Charlie McBrady, Council Liaison	-	Lori Legere	-	Jim Thibodeau, LPAC Liaison	-
Theo Holtwijk, Staff	√	Nathan Poore, staff	-	Mark Debowksi, FST	√

**Others present:** Keith Smith, Terrence DeWan & Associates

The meeting was started at 6:00 PM.

#### 1. Review of Draft Minutes of September 16, 2015 meeting

The draft minutes of the September 16, 2015 meeting were approved as written.

#### 2. Discuss Public Forum Feedback

Theo handed out Mark's forum minutes as well as notes provided by Lori and Sarah. The committee felt that the Forum had gone well and that the attendance was good, with new people attending. Some were surprised by the opposition that was expressed regarding the sidewalk improvements, but all felt that the statements of support for sidewalks at the end of the meeting seemed to reflect the sentiment of those gathered that evening. Regarding the design, the committee agreed to take another look at possibly including an esplanade along the west side of Route 100. Sarah suggested extending the sidewalk to Libby Bridge, but there was not enough support to pursue that. Steve wondered how the "pocket park" got such prominence in the plan.

#### 3. Discuss Mill Road Site Walk

Theo mentioned that Joe, Lori, Sarah, Mark, Keith, and Lucky and Jeff for Parks & Community Programs, a neighbor, and himself participated in the Mill Road site walk. Committee members described their impressions of the site and Keith displayed a sketch how and where a river access trail could be created. The committee agreed that "pocket park" was a misnomer for this site and that "river access trail" was more appropriate. Keith suggested creating a 5 feet wide, 360 feet long mulched path from Mill Road to the river where the land was more flat and where a picnic table could be located. The path could loop and come back out a different location on Mill Road. A narrower footpath along the river could be linked to this loop path. Committee members responded favorably to this proposal and felt that it fitted the community and had the opportunity to connect to local history as remnants of a stone dam and sluiceway remain along the river. Joe wondered who the users would be for this trail. The sense was that it would be mostly by neighborhood residents and an occasional fisherman. Keith suggested creating two parking spaces near one of the entry points. The project budget carries a construction cost of

\$20K for this, which was deemed sufficient by the committee, especially if volunteer labor can be recruited.

#### **4. Review Project Progress**

Theo reported that Mark had recently made a submission of 131 drawings to MaineDOT along with a cost estimate, which was handed out. The current estimate stands at \$12.1M. Theo also distributed an assessment prepared by Mark that categorizes which project components would typically be a State versus Town responsibility. The chart showed that about 2/3rds of the project would fall to the State. Theo emphasized that the Town does not expect MaineDOT to provide \$8M of the \$12M needed as financial support, but that the Town's financial analysis showed that \$12M was too costly a project for the Town, unless significant financial support was forthcoming from the State. He mentioned that the Town Manager was seeking to schedule a follow-up meeting with MaineDOT Commissioner Bernhardt to discuss the project's finances.

Members felt that the State needed to step up its financial support to help realize the project. The committee recognized that inclusion of an esplanade would increase right of way impacts and costs, but felt that it was important to know how much the esplanade cost would be. The project is currently proposed to have asphalt curbing. Theo stated that the Town manager requested that granite curbing for Route 100 be costed out as this may be a more durable and aesthetic option, especially if other elements of the project may need to be cut.

The committee discussed that the public sentiment regarding the referendum vote will likely depend on the total project cost as well as the magnitude of MaineDOT's financial contribution. This discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

#### **5. Other Business**

Theo passed around the upcoming meeting schedule and stated that the next two meetings will be important as the scope and cost of the project needed to be nailed down. He also distributed Mark's letter to abutters. Mark will conduct door to door visits in the next two weeks to review the project in person with abutters.

#### **6. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is October 28 at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM.

Draft minutes prepared by Theo Holtwijk, October 16, 2015