

**TOY TOWN PARTNERSHIP
WINCHENDON ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – Thursday, October 15, 2015
109 Front St., 2nd Floor Auditorium**

Present: Dave Romanowski, WEC Sub-committee Chairman
Elaine Mroz, TTP Chair
Cynthia Boucher
Linda Daigle
Jane LaPointe
John Deline

Absent: Steve Haddad, Ken LaBrack, J Lillie, Kris Provost, Don O'Neil
Partner: Michelle Deline

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, October 28, 2015, 5:30 p.m. (WEC not TTP)**

Documents presented at meeting:

- None

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Review of Minutes –

- Minutes of June 1, 2015 (TTP) and September 17, 2015 (WEC) were approved.

Garden Club – Veterans Park

- Sidewalks are being installed. There is still too much work underway to plant Spring bulbs this Fall.
- **Action:** Elaine will check with Ken on the overall design in anticipation of planting Spring 2016.
- John recommended that the shrubs be pulled out.

Converse Gardens

- Bad news for now re access. The River Street area will require more fill than originally anticipated.

Bike Trail

- All the construction funds have been used and the work isn't finished. The construction company's position is that the Town has to come up with more money for additional work. This will be a negotiation between the construction company, Town and MA DOT.
- Issues include
 - Contaminated soil. \$100,000 to remove it. It could be reused if it will be paved over. Options: move soil to Transfer Station? Use at River Street if paved? Question: did Town acquire land with 21E money and does this remove the liability from the Town?
 - Drainage. Engineering has been redone; pipes need to be installed; no money for this.
 - Decision on how to do bridges was correct but has added cost.

- Vandalism to new trail and to construction vehicles. Includes damage caused by ATVs who start at Little Anthony's.
- A site meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20th at 11:30 a.m. Cindy will be there. Tracy Murphy has had to pick this up.
- Phase 6 – in Gardner. Design and engineering work is at DOT.
 - There will be a public hearing on the trail that will raise the issue of the pending/blocking right of way.

Master Plan

- The last Master Plan had goals and objectives for each department. BOS would have departments meet each month to give a status update.

Ingleside

- Town Manager hasn't had a chance to meet with John Kearny. Linda has spoken with MJ to schedule a time for October 20 or 21.
- Town Manager is planning to talk with attorneys to confirm/inform the approach to acquiring the property.
- Rick Lucier's questions to BOS. Linda has invited him to attend a WEC meeting with his questions.
- John hasn't done a scope for the engineering work at the Spring/Glenallen/Hall Street intersection. He will do this after Town Manager and John Kearny meet.

Fall Festival

- Amazing. No fee, free events, is important. This year's layout was very good. Good collaboration with Parks & Rec.
- Ideas for next year:
 - Activities: Skate board/bike competition or demonstrations. Photo contest/exhibition of Ingleside. Dave LaPointe Band has already volunteered for 2016 – last Saturday in September. 9/24/2016 --- **Action:** Need to check with J Lilly on his availability.
 - Pie/Dessert Contest: Go out to groups and recruit bakers; request participation. A fresh start with a panel of judges; anonymous judging.
 - Sponsorship. Solicit earlier. Secure relationship/sponsorship with Athol Savings Bank - soon. **Action:** Give them feedback on the Festival. Thank them. Kris and ?? meet with Peter or the appropriate people at ASB soon.
- Budget: \$5,000 for 2015. Spent \$5006. \$4,000 was from last year's Robinson-Broadhurst grant.
 - **Action:** Linda is finalizing the accounting and will have for an upcoming meeting.
 - Goal for 2016: not to use Robinson-Broadhurst funding (??)
- Survey: **Action:** Jane will process surveys

WEC – Going Forward – **Action:** for next meeting's agenda

- Revisit/recast Mission and Goals for 2016+
 - Current Mission: Our Mission is to create and develop innovative ideas and solutions and to make informed choices to enhance the Winchendon (Toy Town) identity to make Winchendon a better place for all who reside, visit and do business here.
- Consider focus of activities and how to proceed. More feet on the street versus meetings. Informed by re-scoped Mission.
 - Arts/Culture; Placemaking/Makerspace (Fall Festival); Community Gardening (Northampton model); Ingleside Acquisition and Operations

- Role as partner in other Town initiatives: Master Planning/Open Space
- Increase participation/network: subcommittees, partners, community partners
- Another Forum
- Grants
- Revisit the September 2013 Robinson-Broadhurst Forum results
- Start Fall Festival sooner. Now for grants.

Public/Civic/Government Outreach – N/A

Social Media – N/A

Old Business – N/A

Correspondence – N/A

Adjournment: adjourned at 6:50 p.m.