

Ad Hoc Town Common Committee

Draft Minutes

Handwritten by Pam Hodgkins, transcribed by Kate Lawless

In person meeting at Town Hall on July 11, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Kate Lawless, Chair, Trevor McDaniel, Pam Hodgkins, Denise Schwartz, Melissa Hale, Greg Francesci (via Zoom), Jeff Squire from Berkshire Design Group

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:35
2. Minutes (we did not approve the minutes from the May 17 meeting)
3. DOT meeting report from Trevor
 - a. Major topics were who owns what streets and what is the permitting process around the Common; state wants to slow traffic on Park Street, slow process, legal issues.
 - b. We asked DOT to evaluate infrastructure: sidewalks on Sugarloaf Street seems like a priority
 - c. Jeff will look into the permitting process for our project
 - d. Maybe we could ask for bumpouts to shorten crosswalks
 - e. Trevor also talked about McGovern's visit, discussion of the Deerfield Campus, and USDA programs that could help fund them
4. Finalize Town Common Design
 - a. Town's 350th celebration coming up in June/July 2023; avoid a construction zone at that time
 - b. Fountain design: cone stays, rocks go
 - c. Suggestion of granite posts around fountain core
 - d. Jeff suggests mechanics stay, drainage stays, roof decks raise level of fountain floor for shallower pool; freeze/thaw issues; fill with gravel/concrete? Jeff will consider options
 - e. Cap wall, use Goshen stone
 - f. Bricks lining paths could be an alternate, if we have the \$
 - g. We did say in CPC grant that we'd be conserving water, so we need to think about that; use base of fountain as reservoir for a recirculating pump?
 - h. Look Park project did something similar; M.J. Moran Electrical Contractor
 - i. Irrigation: much more expensive now; insert sleeves for future drip irrigation?
 - j. Crosswalks: work with DOT
 - k. Monuments: adjust one on south
 - l. lighting/electricity: weatherproof outlets
 - m. Relocation of trash, PO box, water fountain: add to plan
 - n. Plantings: trees/native, drought-tolerant species, but also some annuals
 - o. Benches: the four near the fountain: stone slab on pedestals? See Sunderland war memorial; seat walls at entrances
 - p. Pam to research Newport, Pliny Park bench manufacturer and costs
 - q. Leary Lot connection?
 - r. Parking: DOT doesn't want parking around the common or on any state road.