

GEORGETOWN RECREATION PATH COMMITTEE

March 8, 2012

Meeting Minutes 7:00 PM

Town Hall – 2nd Floor Meeting Room

Meeting Opened: 7:23 pm

Committee Member Attendees: (x indicates attendance)

X	Jeff Wade, Chairman (JW)	X	Bill Hastings, member (BH)	X	Bill Munroe, member (BM)
X	Chris Roop, member (CR)	X	Richard (Dick) Paganelli, member (RP)		Howard Snyder, Georgetown Town Planner (HS)

Friends of the Committee:

Guests:

Abbreviations and Terms: B2B – Border to Boston, Mass DOT – Mass Dept of Transportation, FST - Fay, Spofford and Thorndike, KOD – Kathleen O’Donnell, MVMPO (MPO) - Merrimack Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization, NG – National Grid, NOI – Notice of Intent (Conservation Commission), ROW – Right of Way

Minutes Approval: 2/23/12 approved as written

Correspondence:

1.

Meetings Attended:

1. NOI 2/29 – BH & RP attended
2. MDOT ROW 2/27 – RP and JW attended
3. Selectman’s meeting 2/27 – JW attended

Discussion:

1. NOI meeting (2/29): Steve Pryzjemski, HS, RP and BH had a working meeting to discuss NOI requirements and prepare for a meeting with the ConComm. RP and BH will attend the regular ConComm meeting scheduled for March 15 at 7 pm. Need to bring map and work plan to show where we propose doing any work. Initial proposal will be to only mow and trim trees. Future plans, such as installing temporary bridges or doing surface repairs will be put off for now so an NOI is not required to open the interim trail. Need to see how the full NOI being prepared by FST might play into the interim trail.
2. MDOT ROW meeting: Meeting with the Mass DOT Right of Way unit to discuss the procedure for obtaining the ROW parcels we need to complete the trail. All of the northern B2B trail towns were represented in addition to KOD and Shawn Holland, DOT Project Manager. It is important to go about obtaining ROWs correctly so there are not issues later. Typically projects need to wait until around when the 75% design is completed in order to ensure that no complications are uncovered that would reroute the trail and cause different ROW requirements. If we were to move ahead with getting ROWs at an earlier phase the risk would be on the town. However, we know where the trail needs to go and need to move forward with specific properties in order to get the interim trail open. For the interim trail we would get a license from the home owner and not an easement.
3. BH will draft a letter to KOD to get a sample letter for getting a license agreement with abutters, easement form, P&S (binder) for the easement.
4. Selectman’s meeting: The Selectmen raised the subject of the bylaw and needed additional information. JW provided an update to the Selectmen on the progress and timing of the trail. They recommended pursuing an ordinance or regulation rather than a bylaw. A bylaw needs to go to the town meeting as well as any changes to it. Regulations and ordinances can be created by Park and Rec. commission. JW reminded the Selectmen that we need to have representation at MVMPO meetings and they agreed. HS will be attending the meetings.
5. Any regulation we propose needs to be consistent with any agreements we obtain with NG (license or lease). Next step is to complete the arrangements with Park & Rec. Need to consult with town council K&P and Police Chief. Need to get any changes from P&R and get a decision at their next meeting.
6. BH investigated the Tiger Grants (<http://www.dot.gov/tiger/>) for construction funding. Application submission date has already closed for this year. We will continue to investigate for future consideration though future funding is uncertain.

Other:

Adjourn: 9:00 pm

Scheduled Committee Meetings (2nd fl. meeting room) 3/22, 4/12 (basement), 4/26, 5/10, 5/24, 6/14 (basement), 6/28

Other Meetings: