

TOWN OF STOW
Lower Village Sub-Committee

Minutes of the February 21, 2007 Lower Village Sub-Committee Meeting.

Present: Committee Members: Don McPherson, Barbara Sipler, Karen Kelleher, Russ Willis, Bruce Fletcher

Associate Member: Phil Moseley

Board of Selectmen Liaison: Steve Dungan

Planning Board: Kathleen Willis

Also Present: Dwight Sipler

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.

Minutes

Karen Kelleher moved to approve minutes of the February 7, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Russ Willis and carried by a unanimous vote of four members present (Don McPherson, Barbara Sipler, Karen Kelleher and Russ Willis). *Bruce Fletcher was not present at this time.*

TRAFFIC POSTER

Dwight Sipler offered to modify the Traffic Poster to reflect changes as suggested by Don McPherson and Bruce Fletcher and discussed at the February 7, 2007 meeting. Karen Kelleher will provide an electronic copy of the existing poster.

PLANTERS

As a follow up to a discussion at the December 12, 2006 meeting about the idea of businesses sponsoring a planter, Don McPherson circulated a brochure on planters.

GATEWAY/SIGNS

Dwight Sipler noted that the Planning Board Chairman, Ernie Dodd, spoke about the idea of a gateway sign to promote the agricultural community. Dwight noted that each farm has their own unique colors and would like to use these colors on signs in addition to the standard directional signs.

STREET BOUNDS

Members discussed the possibility of requesting a Surveyor place the bounds in front of the Shoemaker's property. It was agreed to invite Supt. of Streets, Mike Clayton, to the next meeting to discuss this issue as well as an implementation plan.

TOWN GREEN

Barbara Sipler shared an old map indicating the Lower Village Green was much larger than it is today. She also referred to an Audubon Magazine, devoted to commons, and noted that it is important to get as much land for the common as possible. She also noted that we need a sign bylaw that would consider conservation of the pristine nature of the common. She is also concerned that the proposed roundabout in front of the Shoemaker property, which is a

historical site, and it may need a need for an archeological dig before the roundabout is installed.

Barbara Sipler said restoration of the green is most paramount and the Town should pursue with Linear Retail to determine what belongs to the Town and what belongs to Linear. Bruce Fletcher said that the north side of the Garner Road traveled way is only a couple of feet from Linear Retail's property line. He thinks the location of Great road was moved northerly. Don McPherson said he is in favor of ripping up Gardner Road and making it part of the green. He appreciates Barbara's historical perspective.

AREA ROUNDABOUTS

Barbara Sipler noted that the Pepperell Roundabout at Routes 110 and 113 works well.

UTILITY LINES

Members discussed the aesthetic issue of utility lines in Lower Village and the need to seek grants for relocating or burying utility lines. Don McPherson suggested considering moving the utility lines behind the business' on the southerly side of Great Road, which would be less expensive than putting them underground.

PEDESTRIAN ISLANDS

Members discussed the possibility of using the Town's sidewalk funds for pedestrian refuge islands in Lower Village. Kathleen Willis said she feels the priority location for sidewalks should be from Harvard Road to Hudson Road.

NEXT MEETING

Dwight Sipler – Draft poster modification.

Mike Clayton, Supt. of Streets - Implementation Plan

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Kelleher
Planning Coordinator

