

**TOWN OF STOW  
PLANNING BOARD**

Minutes of the May 2, 2011 Planning Board Meeting.

Present: Planning Board Members: Steve Quinn, Lori Clark, Kathleen Willis and Ernest Dodd

Absent: Len Golder

Planning Coordinator: Karen Kelleher

Also Present: Bruce Fletcher

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

**PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY PLANS**

Members discussed Pedestrian Walkway plans relative to the proposed walkway in front of the McAlpine and Leone properties. Bruce Fletcher, Town Engineer/Consultant to the Pedestrian Walkway Planning Sub-Committee was also present.

**McAlpine Property**

Members discussed the Boards vote of April 5, 2011 to require installation of a guardrail along the walkway section in front of the McAlpine property (598 Great Road).

It was noted that the requirement for a guardrail in this location was due to the recent accident in this area and the knowledge that there have been several accidents in this area. Bruce Fletcher noted that there have been several accidents since the 1960's, however they did not all involve vehicles driving onto the area where the sidewalk is proposed. He thinks it has something to do with the curve in the road. Bruce and Lori said they feel this is really a highway/public safety issue rather than a walkway issue. She said she is not denying it is a safety issue. It is an issue that should be addressed by the Highway Department.

Karen Kelleher noted that it is difficult to say it is not a walkway issue if you are talking about reimbursing the Highway Department for installation of the guardrail with walkway funds. Members determined that it is a highway department issue, walkway funds should not be used. One member noted that the Board could consider using walkway funds, if asked. Bruce Fletcher noted that the highway department is aware of the issue and will have to address it and he would follow up with the Highway Department. Bruce noted that it should be up to the Highway Department to determine the solution, whether it be a guardrail, chevron arrows or something else. Lori noted that there should be more thought put into the issue rather than just adding a guardrail to the plan.

***Ernie Dodd moved to not show the guardrail on the plan and to follow up with public safety departments (Police and Highway) requesting that they come up with a solution. The motion carried by a unanimous vote of four members present (Steve Quinn, Ernie Dodd, Lori Clark and Kathleen Willis)***

### **Leone Property**

Bruce Fletcher asked for the Board's input on his April 28, 2011 email to Places Associates, concerning the walkway in front of the Leone property. The Walkway Committee authorized him to work with the Leone's, regarding the walkway in front of their house, with the goals to address the Leone's concern about the location of the property, to move the walkway back far enough to allow for the elimination of the curbing, and to solve an existing water problem reportedly caused by runoff from the street that will only get worse with the addition of the walkway.

In consultation with Mike Clayton and the Leone's, they came to the conclusion that the walkway can be set behind the utility poles #'s 117, 118, 119, and 120, which will set the walkway significantly far enough off the edge of pavement to allow for the elimination of curbing along that stretch. The runoff entering their easterly driveway can be redirected toward the street by reconstructing the driveway apron between the existing street edge of pavement and the limits of the R.O.W., raising it where the walkway crosses it between 3.5" and 4" above existing, pitched toward the street, creating a greater than 1% pitch between the walk and the street. Bruce noted that the Highway Department suggested they might be able to handle the driveway work but it needs to be done at the same time as the sidewalk.

***Members agreed to request that Places Associates revise the plan based on Bruce's email dated April 28<sup>th</sup> and to include the driveway work in the plans.***

### **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

Members then attended Annual Town Meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kelleher  
Planning Coordinator