

**The Route 156 Bike Way and Sound View Improvements Committee  
Unapproved Minutes of June 27, 2016 Special Meeting  
Memorial Town Hall Old Lyme, CT**

**Committee Members Present:** Mary Jo Nosal, Angelo Faenza, Bonnie Reemsnyder, Jim Lampos, John McDonald, Frank Pappalardo, Skip Sibley, Jim Lampos (arrived after the minutes were approved) and Rob Haramut. Kurt Prochorena is on vacation.

**Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 7: 05PM

**Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes:** Motion was made by Bonnie and seconded by Angelo to approve the minutes of 6/27/16. There was no discussion. Voting in favor: Angelo, Mary Jo, Jim, Frank Skip, John and Bonnie. None opposed. Rob abstained. Motion passed.

**Update/Questions/ Project Status**

- Bonnie informed the committee that Chris Faulkner, the DOT liaison from VHB had called her to let her know that the DOT authorization to advertise for the construction was expected by the end of the week. Additionally, the Town Attorney recommended signing the Inspector Agreement after the Town Meeting and this may be before the bid phase.
- The bid documents will reflect: advertisement expected to be July 18; a bid meeting, project walk-through which is not mandatory about 10 days later; and last day to submit a bid, expected to be August 8, which will also be the date of the public bid opening. BSC Group will be responding to bidder questions on an on-going basis.
- BSC Group has requested the labor rates for the bid packages. Mary Jo will reach out to Rob for an update on this.
- John asked if there was a go-no go date for the project this year. The committee discussed the delay may be a contractor concern or agreement delay and weather issues. Jim asked if we had any DOT or permit concerns if the project slips. It is possible that the project may be bid to account for any phasing of the construction.

**Town Meeting 7/18/16 7:30 PM Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School**

- Members will reach out to their contacts and project teams to inform them of the meeting and get support. The hope was that the efforts the committee and historical work for improvements for the area will be recognized. If the appropriation does not pass, we would have to go back to town meeting and may miss the season or could have to repay the grant funding to date.
- The presentation will include a power point presentation and BSC to assist us. We will include the cost of the town funding ADA accessible sidewalks without a grant, repaying the design fees if we do not proceed, breaking out the costs including the \$75,000 buffer approved by the Boards of Finance and Selectmen. The figure includes the State costs of about \$65,000 which we are responsible for only \$13,000 or 20%.
- Jim advised focusing on what we will spend and what we get for it. Bonnie concurred that Sound View sidewalks are an example of something that should have been addressed before and this grant allows us to do it now. Angelo has also been explaining this to folks. Not utilizing the grant would not save the State any money as the grant is federal and would have been spent elsewhere. Also, the project grant was supported by all the towns in the COG.
- Jim said to focus on the last presentation and Bonnie detail the construction costs.
- In addition to the ADA concerns and budget, there may be some discussion on:
  - The dilapidated buildings-The project is a catalyst. The landlord of some of the properties is in favor of the project and should be made strongly.

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- Parking- will be discussed and include getting the maximized parking. Of note, downtown Mystic had a sidewalk project, reduced parking and Water St. is booming.
  - The bike path- evidence supports a financial benefit to towns with bike ways.
  - Timeline goal-plan remains construction in the fall and complete the plantings in the spring.
  - The recommendations given to the DOT regarding the Route 156 bike way design standards are expected to be implemented when the road is renovated.
  - The DOT process-is a requirement to get the 80/20 reimbursement and we want and need to do this.
  - No one's front yard will be adversely affected.
  - It is fiscally critical to utilize the grant for these improvements. The storm water drainage is a good example of an expensive improvement that is healthier for the community.
  - Restrooms-dependent on the sewer project.
  - This is a transportation grant
  - Beautification benefits Old Lyme
  - Consider a historical review of progress
- Skip thought the DOT requirement for bid openings was on Wednesdays. As this had not been brought up before by Kurt Prochorena or Chris Faulkner, Mary Jo will ask Chris about such a requirement.
  - Advertising is required for a minimum of 21 calendar days. Advertising will be in The Courant, DAS and on our website.
  - Rob Haramut of the RiverCOG administratively approved the supplemental TIP for the increased construction budget as required by DOT.
  - The Town will need to encourage the construction firm to complete the DOT construction documents and Agreement in a timely manner to meet our timeline.
  - There was consensus that committee members continue to reach out to people to make them aware of the Town Meeting. Frank, Angelo and Jim have been informing those at the beach area, Skip will inform the boathouse constituents. The Chamber of Commerce and LOLEF were mentioned.
  - The construction budget recommended to Town Meeting by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance is \$877,000 which provides some buffer room should the bids exceed the engineers estimated construction budget was \$812,000. The recommendation also includes the town's 20% share of the DOT costs.
  - The committee will review the slide show this week and provide comments.

**Next meetings** – Town Meeting on 7/18/16 at 7:30PM the Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School

**Public Comment** - none

**Next Regular Meetings** - 7/26/16, 8/29/16, 9/27/16, 10/24/16, 11/29/16 at 4:30PM, Town Hall.

**Motion to Adjourn** at 8:30 PM, made by Skip and seconded Angelo. There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Jo Nosal, Acting Clerk 7/13/16