

Route 156 Bike Way and Sound View Improvements Committee
Unapproved Minutes of June 8, 2015 4:30 PM Memorial Town Hall, Old Lyme, CT

Members Present: Angelo Faenza, Jim Lampos, Mary Jo Nosal, Bonnie Reemsnyder (joined 4:45), Frank Pappalardo, Skip Sibley, John McDonald, and Rob Haramut. Guests: Kurt Prochorena of BSC Group; Joanne Lishing, Lenny Corto, Frank Marrata.

Welcome A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes of June 1, 2015 made by Angelo and seconded by Jim. Discussion-Skip felt the meeting with OLISP was not a typical meeting, more of a discussion that the OLISP called and these were notes from this discussion. Motion carried 6 in favor (Angelo, Jim, Mary Jo, Skip, Frank, Rob).

Preliminary Design Discussion

Preliminary Construction Cost Estimates:

David Head's 6/8/15 email response to the committee's inquiry as to what CTDOT would agree to fund was read to the committee. David reported that CTDOT will not be increasing the grant to any great degree given the higher construction estimates. CTDOT has allocated \$665,000 for construction and of that, the Federal grant allocation is \$532,000. Mary Jo will send provide this correspondence to the committee.

- Bonnie indicated that the probable construction costs should be shared with the Board of Finance. She was not confident, and there was general agreement, that the Town would agree to fund the difference between the grant and construction estimates. Rather, additional sources of funding should be considered. Community support is needed at the Public Informational Meeting (PIM), to feel assured that the project will be supported at Town Meeting. Bonnie recommended phasing the project beginning with the Hartford Av. streetscape i.e., sidewalks, street parking, bike way, address ADA concerns, public safety and lighting. The streetscape will create a good atmosphere, supports a transportation grant, and will garner community support.
- Jim agreed that we should get the most we could from the grant and make an investment in Sound View.
- Community support would be expected for the streetscape vs. the more controversial components, namely the parking lot and restrooms.
- Frank supported phasing the project but requested some work be done on the park which has been supported by the shoreline community. The including the traffic concerns and shabby appearance of the parking lot are concerns of the residents. There was general consensus that the parking lot could be made more attractive perhaps utilizing Public Works but that the streetscape would be the initial focus. John felt it would muddy the waters to do some of the parking lot work and the streetscape.
- Skip asked about an accounting to date and Kurt will provide the invoices. The current design work is part of the \$145,000 approved at Town Meeting. Bonnie indicated that the committee would continue to adjust the construction estimates to get closer to the \$665,000. Additionally, the bids may come in lower. Kurt suggested grant opportunities from DEEP, Eversource and STEAP be considered.
- Frank supported moving ahead with full design and get support for the streetscape as Phase I at the PIM while speaking to the park and restrooms as Phase 2-3. These improvements are what the public have been informed about and have supported. Bonnie said the Master Plan will include all parts of the project and we can fund additional improvements as funds are available.

BSC Group Preliminary Design Cost of Probable Construction Cost Estimates

Hartford Ave: \$751,000

Sound View Green: \$471,000

Rest Rooms: \$243,000

Kurt explained that the estimates are perhaps 10-15% over-estimated given the required DOT unit pricing tables, incidentals at 25% contingency at 10%, 5% inflation, and there is no allowance for possible economies of scale that a contractor may utilize. Kurt suggested including some add or deduct items in the bid.

Preliminary Design Meeting Preparations

- Jim advised focusing on the PIM and ensure we detail the Master Plan but stress the advantages of the streetscape phase e.g. visual upgrade, ADA compliance, street parking improvements, safety and economic benefits. Jim stated that it is time to have real investment in Sound View. The committee discussed a possible presentation flow and agreed to meet June 22 to practice.
- Kurt reassured the committee that the streetscape goes down to Pond Rd., so it will have a positive effect on the appearance of the parking lot. Angelo agreed that we had to work with what we have and that the streetscape is positive for the community. Frank stated that the restrooms are phase 3 as there is a no place for them to flush.
- There were questions as to what the Town's financial responsibility is if the project fails to move forward after permission to move forward has been requested by DOT. David Head will be asked to detail this as soon as possible. Additionally, the committee needs feedback from David as to the status of 156 and the bike way work and to approve a revised postcard.
- The PIM format will follow the format from October.
- To show support, members of the committee may attend the Board of Finance Meeting on 6/16/15 at 7:30PM.
- The committee appreciated the revised rest room estimate from Nina. She will be present at the PIM to answer any specific questions.

Misc: No feedback from OLISP to date.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 6:20 PM by John, seconded by Angelo. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting(s):

6/22/15 4:30 PM at Memorial Town Hall - Preliminary Design Prep

6/29/15 4:30 PM Preliminary Design Prep

6/30/15 7:00 PM Preliminary Design Meeting at Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School

Respectfully submitted by Mary Jo Nosal, Acting Clerk 06-09-15