

Quality of Community Committee 7 January 2015 draft minutes

Commencement 6 pm

Appointees present: Susan Brink, Jennifer Wallace, Lee Michaelides, Craig Layne

Selectboard members present: Stephen Flanders

Public present: Nick Krembs

No changes were made to the agenda.

The “Safe Routes to School” project was discussed. It was under the management of the Vermont Agency of Transportation—their original engineering contractor had not been executing the project on time; as a result, AOT assigned the work to a new engineer, which is expected to allow the work to start in the summer of 2015.

Trail concepts from town to Rte. 5 S were discussed. One, under study was a bike path to allow students to reach the Dresden playing fields from downtown. Another was a right-of-way for a footpath past the Gateway residential property to the conservation area on either side of Blood Brook. An unofficial route from Huntley Meadows past the Catholic Church, down Hopson Road, through Warner Meadows that would lead across Elm Street along Blood Brook to Rte 5 S was mentioned. Existing AOT trail funds were allotted for planning, only. Construction of a trail, using AOT funding, would have to accommodate handicap access and meet other regulations. An otherwise funded, ordinary trail would not be constrained by those regulations.

Connecting a walking and bike loop from Elm Street along Blood Brook to the north end of the King Arthur trail, from the south end of the King Arthur trail to the Hartford town line at Rte 5 (where Hartford has a proposed “Safe Route to School” trail to connect with the Dothan Brook bike path), from the town line to Hopson road and along Hopson road back to Elm Street at Blood Brook was discussed.

A single pdf of the road, trail, sidewalk, parcel and project data examined on separate paper maps will be generated.

The Planning Commission will be asked to redirect efforts onto the “Safe Route to School” projects.

The Planning Commission will be asked to hire a GIS consultant to generate electronic trail maps, including all of the official trails and their road connections in town, for posting on the town website.

Hartford will be consulted about their plans/progress with the “Safe Routes to School” path from the Dothan Brook bike path to the town line.

Adjournment 7:15

Minutes submitted by C. Layne