

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee

August 24, 2017

7:30 p.m.

50 Carby Street

Committee Members Present: Michael Kraft (Chair); Steven Olanoff (Vice Chair); Bob Rich (Secretary); Rory Laughna; Jim McLaughlin; Stephen Botelho; George Lester; Paul Sicard; Enkelejda Klosi;

Committee Members Absent: Todd Korchin; Tom Prior; Abigail McCabe;

Guest: Mike Callender, 49 Beacon Street, Westwood

Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm

Westwood Day – Saturday, September 23

George Lester provided a sample of the banner. It will be 10 feet long, 10 inches wide and will be white background with black capital lettering. George showed images that will be added to the banner and the committee provided feedback on the sign. Sign-O-Rama will make the waterproof banner for the booth. David White's law firm will provide free bicycle helmets and the canopy and we will solicit volunteers again this year. There will be easels and maps and handouts at our booth.

DPW Update (Todd Korchin via email)

Gay Street Sidewalk:

The Town met with several residents back in June to discuss the potential of installing a sidewalk from Route 109 to Buckboard. The meeting was attended by approximately 50 residents who had questions regarding layout, tree removal, and the existing rock wall. For the most part the feedback was pretty favorable, however, the Town agreed to host another meeting in late September/early October to follow up on some of the inquiries. It has been determined, since the meeting, to obtain answers to these inquiries the Town will need to invest in an official design of the project and will have to pursue that investment during an upcoming Town Meeting (more than likely this coming Spring). The DPW will schedule a follow up meeting with the direct abutters regarding the potential Spring Town Meeting Article to fund the design portion of the project.

Complete Streets:

The Town has been awarded another grant from the Complete Streets Program for \$175,000. Westwood is the only community in the State to receive two grants from this program. This grant will be used to fund intersection improvements at North and Route 109 along with sidewalk improvements along Route 109 from North Street to Stanford Drive. These two new projects veer off the Sidewalk Prioritization plan but they provided the Town the best chance at receiving funding a second time from this program.

Paving Projects:

2017 Paving street projects are completed: Farm Lane Neighborhood, Mill Street, Westfield Street, Wilson Way, Briar, Hartford, Alder. 2018 Paving street projects: Gloucester Neighborhood, Parker/Dean Neighborhood, Stanford Drive, Route 109

Police Department Update – Paul Sicard

The Washington Street sidewalk is back in operation again. Stamped brick sidewalks will be installed between the new fire station and Washington Street.

Canton Street construction is causing traffic issues at University Ave near Grainger.

Mary Lou's drive through is now open next to the new Shell gas station and Budget Inn on Route 1, which is causing a traffic issue with cars visiting Dunkin Donuts.

Project updates: New Islington fire station – no opening date yet. Police station – end of October expected to open. East Street bridge project – on track to finish by Fall 2018.

New Speed Limit Law – Westwood is taking a wait and see attitude before voting on it.

Kele Klossi asked if parallel parking could be implemented in Islington. Steve Olanoff suggested that she bring this up with the Islington task force committee on street parking.

A sidewalk has been requested for the Canton and Everett Street intersection.

Planning Board and Community and Economic Development Update – Abby McCabe and Steve Olanoff

Solar canopies proposed for parking areas at Eversource Building at 247 Station Drive.

Thompson Avenue, Westview Estates Subdivision. There is a request to modify tree plantings. Approved plans showed trees to be planted every 30 feet on the outside of the sidewalks. The applicant is requesting that the Planning Board accept a donation into a tree fund or alternative landscape plan as trees are to be on private property and not all homeowner are supportive of the tree plantings.

The Selectmen are forming a committee to work on a comprehensive plan for the town. Steve Olanoff would like a member of our committee to be on this committee.

The Brigham and Women's groundbreaking was held in mid-July. Construction expected to be completed in fall 2018 and the park in front of Brigham's required to open prior to end of 2018.

Islington - Petruzzello Project Update: The Board of Selectmen and Petruzzello group are still working on a memorandum of understanding. Once finalized, materials can be prepared for Planning Board's review. The Islington task force committee did not meet this summer but will resume in the Fall.

New Business

The minutes from the July 27, 2017 meeting were approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 28th at 7:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.