



TOWN OF THOMPSON

Mill Sites Redevelopment
Advisory Committee

815 Riverside Drive
P.O. Box 899
North Grosvenordale, CT 06255
PHONE: 860-923-9475
E-MAIL: planner@thompsonct.org
www.thompsonct.org

Regular Meeting – BAR

Mill Sites Redevelopment Advisory Committee (MSRAC)

Friday, March 26, 2021 – 11:08 AM

VIA ZOOM

Minutes

Present: J. Blanchette, B. Davis, K. Beausoleil, N. Hall, N. O’Leary, R. Waldron, S. Lewis

Also: T. Penn, Judy Rondeau, Daniel Mullins, A. St. Onge

1. Called to order: 11:08am
2. Feb 12, 2021 minutes approved (B. Davis moved; J. Hall seconded; passed unanimously).
3. Correspondence: none
4. Citizens Comments:
 - a. J. Rondeau and D. Mullins (representing the Eastern CT Conservation District) reported on a drainage overflow problem at Thatcher Road/Rt 12 that they trying to solve with a DEEP Grant. They were concerned about the timing of the construction of our sidewalk project, so that hopefully the 2 projects could be coordinated. No engineering has yet been done on the overflow problem and the exact solution has yet to be determined.

Janet explained that the sidewalk work will begin this summer and likely will extend into next spring. Janet and Bernie (and possible Tyra) will visit the area to observe the issue and see if there are any potential ideas to reduce the flow from the top of the hill or improving the catch basin at the bottom.

Judy will communicate with the DOT to explore options and negotiate with DEEP to explore shifting funds to help finance a solution. She will keep us updated.

5. Committee Business:

- a. LOTCIP sidewalk project – Last month was **busy** with the Public Info Meeting, the presentation to the Selectmen, and ZOOM coordination with the project engineer and landscape architect!

- i. Design

- 1. Landscape – All landscape recommendations made by the committee were agreed to by Freeman and drawings revised.
 - 2. Traffic – roadway markings suggested by Bernie are not a CT DOT standard and will not be applied. The flashing speed limit sign is still a possibility depending on construction budget.
 - 3. Bus shelter – Bernie reported that the local connection for potential shelter fabrication is not possible, due to the company's backload of work. Janet and Tyra suggested a similar but premanufactured design option for \$8500 +/-.

Committee voted (Bernie moved, Norma seconded, passed unanimously) to approve that option but also to include glass at the entry side (smoking shed option) and solar powered lighting.

Janey will forward the info to Freeman to be included in specifications.

- 4. Solar lights – public input was that lights were a good idea but the cost is \$8000 +/-, installed (not including base slab, labor). Freeman has added 4 locations to the drawings, but as design for the lights is outside their contract, they are requesting additional services fees.

Committee discussed several options.

Committee voted (Bernie moved, Norma seconded, passed unanimously) to have Freeman continue to show the light locations on their drawings, but only as “future” pedestrian light locations. Committee will continue to explore options and revisit during construction.

- 5. Other Design elements – Bernie raised the issue of existing trees tearing up existing sidewalks and the correction/solution thereof as our new sidewalks get installed. A tree just south of Blain Rd was identified as a “culprit”. Tyra will visit said offender and explain the situation. I mean, confirm the problem.

- ii. Construction –

- 1. DOT has agreed to postpone the planned milling and repaving project along Rt 12 until after the sidewalk construction.
 - 2. DOT Plan review of our project needs only District 2 Maintenance review. Then plans can be put out for bid.

3. Environmental screening results were received 3/25. One more action item remains (sending plans to SHIPPO). Otherwise, a clean result!
4. Construction supervision – Full time (\$50,000 +/-) required? Or can Freeman do on a part time basis? To be determined. Tyra contacting NECOG for reference.

b. John Gumpert status – no new info. Janet will suggest that Amy reach out to get an update/schedule.

c. Other Committee Business – Tyra described a new effort in coordination with the newly formed Land Bank regarding affordable housing. She was looking for volunteers from MSRAC, but we were having none of it. Kidding. Committee members will consider and get back to her.

6. Member Comments:

- a. Bernie asked about member COVID vaccine status and when we can start meeting in person. Tyra to determine timeline, but it looks like our May meeting might be possible.
- b. Norma put in a plug for the Thompson Townwide Cleanup!! Get out there and pick up stuff! (my words, not hers)

7. Adjourned: 12:19 pm

Submitted,

Steve Lewis