TOWN OF WOLFEBORO DOCKSIDE IMPROVEMENTS PUBLIC FORUM September 15, 2015 MINUTES

<u>Present:</u> Dave Ford, Director of Public Works, Rob Houseman, Director of Planning & Development, Dave Owen, Town Manager, Ben Dreyer, Underwood Engineers, Robbi Woodburn, Woodburn & Company Landscape Architecture, LLC, Kathy Barnard, Suzanne Ryan, Jim Collins, Paul Jenne, Bob Tougher, Chip Maxfield, Judy Sabanek, Lucy Van Cleve, Mary DeVries, Steve Durgan, Dick & Kathy Eaton, Bucky Melanson, Bryce Crowther, Joe Williams, Matt Spinale, Bob & Kathy Dolengewicz, Sue Tobelman, Sally Hunter, Cathy Hutchins, Rick Kourian, Dennis Schauer, Julie Jacobs, Cecile Chase, Donnie Mclean, John Thurston, Betsy Booth, David Bentley, Meg Geohegan, Wally & Jane Keniston.

Dave Ford opened the public forum at 2:04 PM.

I. Introduction

Dave Ford and Rob Houseman reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, see attached, including the identification of problems and needs from the July 28, 2015 Dockside Improvements Stakeholders meeting.

Dave Ford stated that from the identified problems and needs, the engineers created talking points and 2 plans that represent opportunities for improvements. He reviewed photographs of existing conditions and distributed photographs of the area in the 1950's. He reviewed the location and condition of existing bathroom facilities.

Rob Houseman stated the BOS recently appointed a Restroom Committee.

II. Presentation of Design Alternatives

Robbi Woodburn, Woodburn & Company Landscape Architecture, reviewed the following design alternatives and noted that each of the plans address the problems and needs identified at the previous meeting;

Alternative 2: Depicts the least amount of change to the existing conditions, same traffic pattern however, provides more opportunity for green space and vegetation. Includes two connecting pedestrian pathways, lighting, additional benches, additional islands for plantings, added modular mobile restrooms. Total net loss of parking is one space.

Alternative 1B: Depicts a change to the parking and circulation, added more green space, lighting and two pedestrian pathways. Total net loss of parking is 15 spaces.

Alternative 1A: Depicts same circulation and parking as noted in Alternative 1B, renovated Dockside Restaurant to include permanent bathrooms, ADA compliant ice cream stand access with a possibility of an information center, includes a "plaza" (area for a fountain along the waterfront). Total net loss of parking is 20 spaces.

III. Public Comment

Members of the public noted the following comments, questions and concerns:

- Snow removal
 - Area to be plowed, piled and hauled off site as currently done at several locations in the Town
- Cost of project
 - A placeholder figure in the amount of \$450,000 is proposed. Cannot retrieve a cost estimate until final plans are designed. Contingency will be included in final cost of project.
- Fire Department approval
 - Access for emergency vehicle apparatus, including boat access, has been addressed.
- Enhance Cate Park
 - Existing Deed Restriction for Cate Park could limit improvements however, such would be researched to ensure improvements are permissible.

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One of the pedestrian pathways does not connect to a crosswalk on South Main Street

- Maintain scenic view ~ tree plantings eliminates such
- Retain existing number of parking spaces; loss of parking spaces impacts businesses and entertainment activities, residents and tourists
- Plans interfere with and impacts deliveries, Molly the Trolley, craft shows, boat regatta
- Town or State owned boat launch
 - Dave Ford stated the boat launch is owned by the Town
- Surveyed parcel
 - Dave Ford confirmed the parcel has been surveyed
- Question of hazardous waste under the existing parking lot
 Remnants of crib docking and rubble is located under the parking lot
- Question whether purchase of Wolfeboro Oil building (potential for satellite parking) is included in the placeholder figure
 - Purchase of the parcel that the Wolfeboro Oil building is located on is a separate CIP request as a standalone project.
- Number of existing parking spaces 40 striped parking spaces
- Do not locate tables near the bathrooms
- Opposed plaza/fountain proposal, in favor of play small playground area for children
- Re-purpose the restaurant building
- Relocate the ice cream window/access to the side of the building facing Cate Park (next to the main entrance to the restaurant)
- Maintenance of dockside area
- Vehicle and boat parking; opportunities to create turnover such as meter kiosk
- Courtesy shuttle to satellite parking lots; review Sunapee
- Expand docking; review other communities regarding boat docking and access to the lake
- Review/address Mount Washington parking/access area
- Burying of utility wires
 Not currently included in the improvements to Dockside; discuss with Barry Muccio regarding feasibility of such.

Several members of the public asked that if there is another meeting scheduled that such be scheduled during the evening hours.

IV. Dockside Improvements Public Forum Stakeholders Survey

Dave Ford distributed the Public Forum Stakeholders Survey to the attendees; noting the results would be tallied and included as an attachment to the minutes.

Respectfully Submitted, Lee Ann Keathley Lee Ann Keathley