

Ad-Hoc Committee on Rural and Scenic Roads

Thursday, February 22, 2018

Minutes

Members Present: Brad Harriman, Paul O'Brien, Claude Roessiger, Blair Moody, Ben Ladd, Roger Murray

Absent: David Owen, Town Manager, Scott Pike, Assistant DPW Director

Staff Present: Terry Tavares, Secretary

Chairman Brad Harriman called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm. The committee discussed putting together a final report for presentation to the Board of Selectmen.

Roger Murray would like a correction to the minutes from January 25, 2018.

Page 2- 4th line change Roger Murray to Ben Ladd said we should meet with the neighbors before any work is done.

Roger Murray said when you have different people taking care of the road it makes a difference.

Paul O'Brien made a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings of January 25, 2018. Claude Roessiger seconded. All the members voted in favor, the motion passed.

Paul O'Brien asked if this committee will end after this meeting. And can it be kept open?

Brad Harriman said the Board of Selectmen put this committee together for a certain process. They will be will be able to reopen the committee if they think it is necessary.

The committee then reviewed the mission statement.

Claude Roessiger would like to add back into the statement "with consideration for and attention to the traditional character and appearance."

The mission statement now reads.

Mission Statement: to "Develop a vision, protocol and schedule for the maintenance and improvement of Wolfeboro's rural roads with, with consideration for and attention to the traditional character and appearance, with respect to budget and constraints or recommendations for investments".

Claude Roessiger asked what are the road widths are they 18' or 20'. Rural roads according to their individual character should be not wider than 18 to 20'.

Ben Ladd said most roads are 2 rods wide. He was on Bracket Road and found it in good condition. He noted that Bassett road is 15 to 18' wide.

Brad Harriman would like to get away from giving a road a certain width as it would be limiting. He suggests to using signs to inform the stakeholders about the grading or maintenance to be done on the road. When they do start to work on the ditch line it makes the road look as if they have been widened.

Claude Roessiger said for a while they would start to go as wide as they could with the grader.

Ben Ladd said he would hate to have the road widened when it didn't need it. Some improvements were in excess of what was needed by the highway department. When you make the road wider you make the road faster.

Brad Harriman suggested this addition to grading - to maintain the existing travel width.

Grading: Grade annually, or more often as needed in certain areas, *to maintain the existing travel width*, creating a crown in the road and then rolling with a vibratory roller.

Ben Ladd asked what will be done with this statement.

Brad Harriman said it goes to the Board of Selectmen to be setup as a policy for the for the highway department to follow.

Ben Ladd said he feels the stakeholders need to be informed of any changes.

Brad Harriman said there should be a public hearing to inform and have the a change to comment on it.

Ben Ladd would like a yearly review or a public hearing to review the work.

Paul O'Brien said in the rush to get the funding done it could get lost. There should be a yearly report.

Claude Roessiger recommends to have the Board of Selectmen to have the committee to meet once a year.

Ben Ladd suggests this is the way this should be done.

1. Identify
2. Assess
3. Management plan
4. Funding

Brad Harriman said we can put a policy in place.

Claude Roessiger said the major issue with the roads are they need to be built back up to grade. If that is done a lot of problems will be corrected.

Brad Harriman said we are talking about how that will done.

Paul O'Brien would like the statement to be reviewed by Scott Pike, Assistant Public Works Director, for his comments on building up the roads.

Claude Roessiger said Scott understands what needs to be done.

Brad Harriman asked do we want to create a standard on this document for procedure. How can we assess the road conditions?

Claude Roessiger said the use of a checklist as a tool would be good.

Brad Harriman asked do you want to work these things into what is presented to the Board of Selectmen.

Claude Roessiger would like to make it one document that is presented to the Board.

Brad Harriman said we can add Procedures under the mission statement. It will read

Procedures: Assess the condition of the travel way, ditch lines, banks and drainage structures. Identify the maintenance needs of the individual roads. To create a development plan.

Brad Harriman asked to have the Prioritize Needs removed from the draft.

Paul O'Brien said we are not trying to micro manage; we are giving them a policy to follow. Once it has been implemented the Board of Selectmen can follow up to see what happens.

Brad Harriman said we will have to have it typed up and sent out to the committee for review and approval. Then we will get it on the Board of Selectmen agenda. We can re-evaluate after one year to see how it is working.

Paul O'Brien would like to ask Scott Pike if this is helping him.

Brad Harriman made a motion to approve the minutes from the meetings of September 28th, 2017, October 26, 2017, and December 14, 2017. Roger Murray seconded. All the members voted in favor, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Tavares

Administrative Assistant