

Town and County of Nantucket
ROADS AND RIGHT OF WAY COMMITTEE

Posted Meeting of
July 18, 2023, at 4:00 pm
Held by Zoom Videoconferencing and Live in the 131 Pleasant Street Conference Room

DRAFT MINUTES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

1. Call to Order, Approval of the Agenda, Approval of Minutes, and Public Comments.

A. Chair Bill Grieder called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm; he read the public notice about attendance at remote meetings. In attendance were Committee Members Nelson “Snookie” Eldridge, Ed Gillum, Bill Grieder, Allen Reinhard, Lee Saperstein, and Phil Smith; there was a quorum at all times. Participants were established by voice roll call.

Absent: Rick Atherton, Nat Lowell, and Rob Ranney.

The meeting was recorded and can be viewed on the Town’s You Tube site (on Town’s main web page as “Watch Meetings Live”, select “Playlists” then look for “Roads and Right of Way”),

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZW7EoRhjMGY&list=PL49sKqpy7VAi_AAzhvnU4I5DTnhiVDj1&index=36.

B. Approval of the Agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously by acclamation.

C. Public Comments.

There was none.

D. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of June 20, 2023.

Two committee members recused themselves because they did not attend the June meeting. The Chair decided that the remaining four members did not constitute a quorum and, so, moved the motion to approve the June minutes to the August meeting of the committee.

2. Review and Update Roads and Right of Way Ongoing Projects List.

This agenda item and its sub-items consumed the bulk of the meeting. Bill Grieder reported that he had received an up-date from the DPW, attached, but had not heard from Mike Burns, Manager of Transportation Planning. He then went over each item on the attached list.

2.A. Public Way Monument Project.

Bill Grieder talked about working on an update of the file of existing monuments, an older copy of which is on the committee's website. Lee Saperstein reminded him that he was given a flash drive with an up-to-date file that needs only to have its format reviewed and then given to Meetings Posting for inclusion on the web page. There are several new monuments, both up-right and flat, to be installed and Bill Grieder will create a work order for them. The Land Bank intends to re-locate monuments on West Chester Street at Crooked Lane and Wannacommet Road; Allen Reinhard will ask the Land Bank to do this re-location.

2.B. Public Way Access Maintenance.

Richard (Mo) Moore, DPW Deputy Director of Operations, reported that the way in Surfside, known as Hawthorne Street, between 51 and 55 Nobadeer Avenue, is slated for brush clearance as is the way alongside 18 Nobadeer Ave. He asked for committee assistance in determining how much cutting could be allowed on Hawthorne Street. The committee asked Bill Grieder to respond by saying that the entire way is public but that a ten-ft. wide path would be more than adequate. Lee Saperstein suggested that, once the monument file is brought up to date, a copy of the file be given to the DPW for them to schedule routine maintenance of all of the public ways that are footpaths and not roads.

2.C. Sidewalk Projects.

Bill Grieder noted that the DPW up-date reported on renovations on downtown sidewalks, particularly on Center and intersecting streets. He then went on to list the various potential projects that were to be reported on by the Manager of Transportation Projects. In particular, he had learned of plans for a sidepath along Lovers Lane through the State Forest and alongside the Boy Scout camp. When he reached the item on connecting the bike paths to the beaches: Surfside Road, Milk Street and Hummock Pond Road, and the Madaket Road, Lee Saperstein reminded the group that there is a plan for providing a path from Prospect Street to Hummock Pond Road using the route of North Mill Street and Old Farm Road. He said that the ways along Mt. Vernon St., Saratoga Lane, and Winn St. need to be considered as a route for a sidepath that avoids the Quaker Cemetery while connecting to the Madaket Road. He and Allen Reinhard objected to the proposed removal of a Prospect Street sidewalk from the list because they have seen too many pedestrians, many with a stroller, being forced into the street as they made their way to Caton Circle. Bill Grieder agreed to return the Prospect Street sidewalk to the list.

As part of this discussion, Ed Gillum told of several sections of Center Street, Lily Street, and North Liberty Street that were missing sidewalks. In the case of the first two, the older sidewalk of brick and granite curbing was removed during the Sewer Force Main Project and replaced with an

asphalt layer once the sewer was installed. It was noted that the force main work was not complete in this section of Town (the Wesco Lots) and that it is expected that sidewalks will be restored once the sewer work is complete. The committee agreed to keep a watch on Center and Lily Streets. His concern with North Liberty Street is for sections that have never had a sidewalk, such as between numbers 9 and 15 and from Derrymore to Cliff Roads. Lee Saperstein noted that the town's investment in sidewalks is primarily downtown and not on the important links to the downtown district. North Liberty is one of those as is Pleasant Street, which is another way in desperate need of a sidewalk between Gardner Perry Lane and Williams Street.

Ed Gillum reported separately that 41 Jefferson Avenue, a substantial home on the beach was for sale at a price approaching 30 million dollars. He is concerned that the way alongside of it is not a public way and, if it sells, could be blocked by the owners. He recommended researching this way to see if public beach access is assured along it and whether or not the beach in front of the property is part of the One Big Beach program. Allen Reinhard added that the project list needs to include new rotaries at the intersections of Bartlett and Surfside Roads and the four-way intersection of Atlantic Avenue, Sparks Avenue, Surfside Road, and Prospect Street.

2.D. Chapter 91 Monitor Project.

Phil Smith reported on the public access portion of this project and said that he would check with Nathan Porter to learn if updates to the GIS maps include properties with Chapter 91 licenses. He will ask also about updates to the public access ways on the map.

As for Chapter 91 interest on behalf of the Harbor Plan Update Committee, he noted that this was not a high priority for them.

2.E. Nantucket Greenway and Trail System Project.

Lee Saperstein noted that there are existing maps of the Nantucket Railroad routes and he will explore with the website manager if they can be put up on web site. The committee has not yet explored with property owners along the railroad right of way if explanatory signage may be posted on their land.

2.F. 'Sconset Bluff Walk Subcommittee Review.

Bill Grieder reported that the Sign Advisory Committee had recommended approval, in their meeting of July 11, 2023, of the proposed wording for signs along the 'Sconset Bluff Footpath. He had attended that meeting. The next step is for the 'Sconset Civic Association to fashion and locate the new signs.

He also reported on a letter received from the 'Sconset Civic Association about abusive behavior

on the footpath. Unfortunately, its remote location makes all-day enforcement difficult. It is hoped that the new signage will help. Ed Gillum shared a fliersheet from Travel and Leisure Magazine that featured the footpath while repeating that there is little to be done except place the signs as soon as possible. Reports of encroachments into the path, Bill Grieder noted, will be turned into the DPW.

4. Old, New or Other Business and Member Comments

Bill Grieder was happy to report that the ‘Sconset Civic Association had created the Eldridge Award to honor committee member, Nelson, “Snookie”, Eldridge and made him its first recipient.

As the committee reached the end of its printed agenda, Phil Smith summarized two major points, namely we expect fresh updates from the DPW and the transportation planner.

5. Adjourn.

At this point, Bill Grieder asked for an adjournment motion and Ed Gillum made it, Phil Smith seconded, and the voice vote in favor was unanimous.

Adjournment came at 5:10 pm.

Next meeting: 4:00 pm, August 15, 2023.

ROADS AND RIGHT OF WAY ON-GOING PROJECTS LIST AS OF 07/11/2023

Public Way Monument Project: *(Lee & Allen & Snookie)*

Update file of existing monuments

- In progress (Update?)

Install remaining monuments at Sconset Footpath, Hulbert Ave., and other locations

- Need scheduling with DPW (DPW Update?)

Land Bank to install monuments at Westchester St. Ext. & Crooked Lane

- Allen Reinhard coordinating with Land Bank (Update?)

Public Way Access Maintenance

- Create DPW work order to clear Hawthorne Street to beach

- (Between 51 and 55 Nobadeer Avenue) (DPW Update?)

- Reestablish access at 18 Nobadeer Avenue

- To be completed during homeowner construction project (Update?)

Sidewalk Projects: *(Lee & Allen)*

Wauwinet Road Bike Path

- In progress (Transportation Planner Update?)

Cliff Road Coffin Park to bike path at Sherburne Turnpike

- Request sent to Selectboard to add to future sidewalk list (Transportation Planner Update?)

Pleasant St. Gardner Perry Lane to Williams St.

- In progress (Transportation Planner Update?)

Lovers Lane Bike path/ road reconstruction

In progress (Transportation Planner Update?)

Follow implementation of downtown sidewalk improvements

- Updates provided by DPW representative to RROW (DPW Update?)

Bike/Pedestrian connection from Surfside to Hummock Pond to Madaket paths

- Land takings completed – needs Town Meeting funding

Wauwinet Road Bike Path

- Status (Transportation Planner Update?)

Prospect Street sidewalk from Milk Street to Madaket bike path

- Unfeasible due to Quaker Cemetery footprint. (remove from list?)

Chapter 91 Monitor Project: *(Lee, Rick, Phil)*

GIS department head Nathan Porter making available online (Update?)

Chapter 91 Licenses

- Requested ConCom to copy RROW on any received applications or notices
- Nantucket and Madaket Harbors Action Plan Update Committee Identify licenses along route for the Harbor Walk
 - in progress (Update?)

Nantucket Greenway and Trail System Project: (Allen, Lee)

Nantucket Central Railroad trail map of existing portions of route

- Locations identified at Easy Street, Washington Street extension, Naushop development and Bayberry Commons to Surfside (Update?)

Island Trail Map with all walking trails

- In progress (Update?)

Sconset Bluff Walk Subcommittee Review: (Allen, Ed, Nat)

- Reviewed sign verbiage and locations, maintenance, encroachments (Update?)

Attended Sign Advisory Council Meeting: Sconset Civic

DPW Update: 7/18/23

Richard Moore
Deputy Director of Operations
Town of Nantucket DPW

1. Work orders have been issued for the maintenance of the public path between 51 and 55 Nobadeer Ave, including brush cutting, and also to restore access to the public access path at 18 Nobadeer Avenue. We want assistance in determining the exact location of the Hawthorne Street beach public access to avoid any encroachment on private property.
2. Regarding the ongoing downtown sidewalk improvement project:
 - Set to resume work on the center street sidewalk between Quince and Gay Street this fall.
 - Will proceed with the renovation of the sidewalk between Center Street and India Street on the odd-numbered side of the center focus on repairing the sidewalk on S. Water St., between Main Street and Cambridge Street on the even-numbered side. The remainder of S. Water St. on the even-numbered side was already addressed last fall.
3. Recently completed the renovation of the India Street sidewalk on the Athenaeum side, as well as the Broad Street sidewalk around the town building (excluding East Chestnut, which is also scheduled for renovation). We are currently awaiting the final sidewalk assessment report, which will aid us in prioritizing future projects in conjunction with on-site assessments