

***Town of York ~ Village Study Committee  
Meeting Minutes ~ September 17, 2015  
York Public Library ~ Wheeler Room***

***Present:*** Ron McAllister, Stu Dawson, Toni DeSoto, Gloria Gustafson, Chris Hartwell, Joel Lefever, Dean Lessard, Robert Palmer, Steve Pelletier, Dylan Smith, Pete Smith, Lew Stowe

***Absent:*** Scott Stevens

***Guests:***

1. Chairman Ron McAllister called the meeting to order at 8:35am.
2. Meeting minutes for September 3<sup>rd</sup> were approved as written.
3. Ron turned the meeting over to Dean who described the new draft “Horizontal Alignment Plan” to the rest of the group with the following highlights:
  - a) Discussion of “curbless” sidewalks which have been suggested but which appear to increase safety hazards for pedestrians when compared to typical curbed sidewalks.
  - b) Discussion of the Lindsay Road intersections with York Street.
  - c) Discussion of design options for the space in front of the Methodist Church building and for the space surrounding the relocated monument.
  - d) Recognition that proposed road alignment in the Horizontal Alignment Plan is very similar to what is in the conceptual Master Plan.
  - e) Concerns expressed by public safety officials regarding lane widths and the need for vehicles to move out of the way of emergency vehicles.
  - f) Introduction of shared (sharro) lanes for bikes and cars at the village center.
  - g) Added parking on York Street in front of Town Hall which will help to slow traffic and identify the entrance to the village center.
4. Dean plans to meet with the KATCS group next Monday and with the Maine DOT on Wednesday to give each of them an initial look at the Horizontal Alignment Plan.
5. Joel noted that he hopes Museum of Old York representatives will have a chance to review the Horizontal Alignment Plan and how it impacts their properties.
6. Joel also expressed concern about the idea of curbless sidewalks which led to a discussion of various advantages and disadvantages related to them. Dylan noted that his preference is to have raised sidewalks to define pedestrian zones.
7. Ron reviewed current plans for various stakeholder meetings and outreach to the general public. Businesses leaders, property owners, village residents and non-profit organizations will be invited by letter or email to an outreach meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup>. The general public will be kept informed of progress through news articles, BOS hearings, and our website.
8. Ron reviewed the status of planning for our booth at MarketFest. More volunteers are needed for coverage of the two days. There will be new posters and handouts available.
9. Dean will be submitting Capital Planning forms in preparation for next May’s referendum to the Town Manager. Our plan is to ask the voters to approve the net cost of the entire village revitalization project, which is approximately \$340,000 after receipt of KATCS funding which will be allocated to the town over several years.

10. Dylan provided an update on the activities of the Village Center Zoning Subcommittee which has completed a draft defining the boundaries and permitted uses of the new zone. He will bring related documentation to our next meeting. The intent is to ask for voter approval of the zoning particulars in May of 2016 and new “design standards” in May of 2017.
11. Dylan noted that he plans to put “safety language” in the ordinance amendment for May of 2016 that will prevent anyone from putting anything in the new zone that isn’t esthetically pleasing and consistent with existing architectural styles until such time as the design standards are put in place.
12. Our next regular meeting will be at 8:30am on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at the York Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 9:58am

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Smith, Secretary