

***Town of York ~ Village Revitalization Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes ~ March 15, 2018
York Public Library ~ Wheeler Room***

Present: Stephen Carr, Stu Dawson, Toni DeSoto, Mike Estes, Chris Hartwell, Dean Lessard, Bill Lord, Ron McAllister, Dan Poulin, Dylan Smith, Pete Smith

Absent: Brent Drennan, Don Rose

Guest: Leah Drennan

1. Chris Hartwell called the meeting to order at 10:06 am.
2. Meeting minutes for February 15th were approved as written.
3. Chris explained that the BOS is working with the York Hospital to establish an easement which will allow ten parking spaces along with adequate sidewalk and turning space in the area to the West of the firehouse apron and behind the Ott property. It will be dependent on town approval of the Northeast Rehab Center application and Hospital Overlay zoning amendment.
4. Ron asked if the seven parking spaces shown on the firehouse apron in the Master Plan will be impacted by this new plan for additional spaces behind the Ott house. It appears not.
5. Dan commented that adding all of this parking along with the on-street spaces Dean has uncovered is a big story that needs to be shared with the immediate stakeholders and publicized actively to the community as the project moves forward. He also suggested that something must also be done to address the need for commercial delivery trucks to operate without causing traffic disruptions and/or safety issues. These are all "parking management" issues that need to be addressed during implementation of the Master Plan.
6. Dean laid out updated plan diagrams showing 17 additional parking spaces that he has located within the phase one area alone. The plan shows a total of 29 newly identified parking spaces altogether. He pointed out that the new message is *"revitalization will add parking spaces, not take any away."*
7. Dean noted that there may be a few issues raised in reaction to some of these new parking locations, such as near the Old Gael or the ancient burying ground. Also, it's anticipated that some planned trees may have to be eliminated or relocated.
8. In discussions about the necessary removal of the tree currently next to the monument, it was suggested that wood might be salvaged and used in some commemorative manner.
9. Chris reviewed the results of our recent village survey walk regarding proposed boundaries for installing underground utilities. The group had surveyed the area along Long Sands Road from Woodbridge Road to the village center and along York Street from the First Parish cemetery entrance to Williams Avenue.
10. The group discussed various options and methods for removing or moving power poles along several segments of the roadway. The survey results identified a priority from the Town Hall entrance drive to the east side of the Berger building and up Long Sands Road to the library driveway.
11. Pete speculated that it might be feasible and more cost effective to move the power poles and lines behind the buildings in the priority area. There didn't seem to be any interest in pursuing that approach.
12. Chris asked that, if and when we get to the point of obtaining estimates from the various utilities for moving the wires underground, would they be broken into sections/segments aligned with our planned phases. Dean answered that the utility companies will estimate the entire area of the project and their designs and estimates will be provided per linear foot of conduit or wire, manhole unit, square foot, etc. so that we can scale their estimates in any way that we wish.

13. In order to proceed from here, Dean recommended that we assign a unique number or letter to each power pole on the plan reflecting the priority of its removal according to our survey, with '1' or 'A' being the highest priority and '26' or 'Y' being the lowest priority. Then, we should send that annotated plan to the consultants along with a rough budget number and ask them to show us what they can do within that budget amount. When we get their answer, we take it to the BOS and ask for their support in obtaining the funding from the voters.
14. At this point, Chris distributed a map to the group showing the power pole numbers used during the survey. The group discussed and agreed on the relative priority by assigning letters from A to Y to each of the 26 poles within the scope of potential removal.
15. Dean will provide the map showing our priorities to the consultants along with a target budget amount. Once we get feedback from the consultants on what is feasible, Dean will reserve a slot on a future BOS agenda to present our plan for getting estimates from the utilities within that scope.

Our next regular meeting will be at 9:00am on Thursday, April 19th at the York Public Library.

Meeting adjourned at 11:28am

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Smith, Secretary