

**Ad Hoc Harbor Trail Committee August 27 2014
Minutes**

Attendees:

Louise Ruf-MacLellan, Chair
Dean Fultron (member)
Virginia Slawson (member)
Joan Wright (member)
John Holden, Community Development Director
Gordon Page, Rockland Main Street, Inc.
Amy Files (citizen)
A Naegel (member)
Thomas Fowler (consultant, engineer)

(Note: HT used as acronym and abbreviation for Harbor Trail)

After brief introductions for all present, the minutes the July 16, 2014 meeting were approved, as corrected with addition of Dean Fulton being present.

J Holden provided brief introduction and focus for this meeting. Landmark Engineers and Surveyors have been retained to design the layout for the HT along Mechanic Street. The City was awarded a \$35,000 grant for this project. The City committed \$9,000 in cash to the project. J Holden noted as did T Fowler some concern that there may need to be more funds to complete this project.

The focus of this meeting was on the Committee input to the design of this portion of HT.

T Fowler noted that his firm did some preliminary work with the Committee and topographic analysis back in 2011.

The Mechanic section of the HT (this project) is about 700 feet in length. Some key engineering issues are drainage and the railroad crossing. The HT must also be “separated” from the road edge and provide some level of safety between cars and pedestrians. T Fowler confirmed that there is enough room in the City right-of-way to have a five feet wide trail and leaving a 3-4 foot edge on the south side where the terrain drops to the railroad tracks. T Fowler will follow up with DOT with any concerns or questions.

An option was presented and discussed to have the trail “curve” down from the roadside after (west) of the railroad tracks, rather than make a straight turn at Snow Marine Road. After discussion, the Committee voted unanimously in favor of this option. This option will require revisions to the easement with J Sharp. J Holden will follow up with Mr. Sharp and the City Attorney to begin this process, but does not expect any issues.

Mr. Fowler presented possible ways to design the walkway including a curbed trail, and two “at grade”

options one being with a guard rail the other with granite blocks (perhaps reclaimed from the City). After discussion the Committee preference was for using the granite blocks, preferring a variety of different sizes. The Committee also asked if a raised platform may be constructed.

As far as walkway surface options in addition to a raised wood (or composite) platform, T Fowler offered asphalt, unit pavers such as HT at the end of Atlantic Street, or stone dust as options. The Committee preference was stone dust or some other natural appearing surface.

Amy Files will return at the September 24 meeting and present two design options for the Historic Markers.

Meeting adjourned.