

Ad Hoc Harbor Trail Committee December 17 2014 Minutes

Attendees:

Louise Ruf-MacLellan, Chair
Dean Fulton (member)
Joan Wright (member)
Annette Naegel (member)
Peter Richardson (member)
John Holden, Community Development Director

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

Minutes of October were approved with one correction (T Fowler not T Files).

J Holden provided an update on the Mechanic Street project:

- City Council approved additional \$20,000 to cover anticipated short fall.
- In addition Council approved \$16,000 from next fiscal year to provide funding for the Atlantic Street project, which will be focus of grant application this spring (by CD Office)
- After review by landscape architect (Regina Leonard), it was not advised for a “planting fence” at east end of Mechanic Street.
- Landmark Engineers and Surveyors will work with City Attorney to put project out to bid in January. FYI, Tom Fowler is leaving Landmark and Joel Lufgin will replace Tom as project manager.

The Committee then reviewed the plans and schedule for the Historic Markers. J Holden noted that although not committed, the CD Office does have some role in allocating funds for this project and there are some funds “on hold” for installation of signs and Harbor Trail Historic Markers. It will fall on CD Office to work with City Manager, and Council to approve these funds for the balance of FY2015 (through June 30, 2015). At the same time, there are funds “on hold” for these in the next FY beginning July 1, all subject to budget planning.

P Richardson agreed to draft up text for the five priority signs and to discuss sign near Waste Water Treatment Plant with WWTP Director Terry Pinto. The Chair will be in touch with the Rockland Historical Society regarding photos for the signs.

J Holden noted that A Files (contractor on design of Historic Markers) has also drafted a temporary sign to be posted at Ferry Terminal Park, top of the stairs, showing the future plans for HT around the rear buildings and over Lindsey Brook. This should be posted in the spring.

A Naegel outlined proposed partnership between City (HT) and the Georges River Land Trust to participate in State organized coastal cleanup program. The City has participated in the past in

this event. The HT Committee voted unanimously in support of such a partnership that would also highlight the HT. A Naegel will send letter from George's River Land Trust to City proposing joint clean up. Details to be worked out in future meetings.

J Holden then shared a DRAFT Harbor Trail Funding Strategy with the Committee. He generally summarized this very rough first draft emphasizing the need of the Committee to consider the "big picture" or "policy" decisions it would support and recommend to Council, as need be. J Holden encouraged the Committee to take up review and input on this Strategy at its January and February meetings and to work with his successor who can work on details. The overall policy questions include:

- Private sponsorship. To seek out or not? If so, what will HT offer private sponsors (signs along HT, other?). Details on sponsorship levels to be determined based on overall need and targeted sections of HT (for example, relatively small amounts of funds for improvements on Sharp Property versus completion of Atlantic Street).
- Role of HT in making the asks. Who makes the asks and what materials will be needed for the asks.
- Individual (personal) contributions. What would this require and would it be overly cumbersome. What do individual contributors "get?" Integrating personal asks with corporate.
- Grants will be the focus of the CD Office but should be integrated with the funding campaign.

J Holden emphasized the importance of timing and that there is a unique opportunity to kick off an sponsorship campaign with the completion of the Mechanic Section of HT, installation of all HT signs, installation of Historic Marker(s), installation of temporary sign at Ferry Terminal Park—all in spring and summer of 2015.

The Chair emphasized that the focus of January meeting will be on the funding strategy. Not date set for that meeting.

Meeting adjourned.