

FALMOUTH TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 8/13/2020 @7PM

Present: Ed DeWitt, Alison Leschen, Ralph Herbst, Chris McGuire, Paul Dreyer, Jane Perry, Paul Grunden

Chairman Ed Dewitt read the Governor's order about the Open Meeting Law changes. He then called the meeting to order at 7:32, due to technical difficulties.

1. Ed welcomed everyone and introduced Peter McConerty (DPW) and Capt. Reid (Police Dept). Each member then spoke about their vision for the committee going forth. Jane informed the committee that she was recording the meeting.
2. The minutes of the July 23rd meeting were approved as written.
3. This week's topics with presentations and discussion are:
 - A. Parking downtown. Capt. Reid said two problems exist: parking shortage and illegal parking, both of which have been studied in the past. There is currently a 3-hour limit, enforced, and no problems at cross-walks. Parking at Mullen school is allowed during non-school hours. Currently, there is no 24-hour parking restriction. One-way traffic is not currently in place. Mr. McConerty said Main St. is difficult, especially for truck off-loading. The committee then had a brief discussion on the signage, traffic flow and parking issues.

The committee then agreed to take several agenda items out of order to accommodate the guest speakers.

- C. Intersection improvements. Jim McLoughlin, Town Engineer, spoke on three intersections currently being worked on: 1) Rt 151/Sandwich Rd. Work involved includes re-painting lines, signal lights, lane changes, and side walk changes. 2) Jones Rd./Gifford St. Proposing left turn lanes. 3) Rt. 151 and 4 other roads. Considering a roundabout or turn lanes with signalization. A brief discussion followed. Public meetings will be held on these improvements.
 - D. Rt. 28 project in East Falmouth. Allison was chairperson of the original improvement committee. They tried to accommodate cars, bikes and pedestrians. Some changes may still be made for the final design. A comment from Mr. Pavin (Chat) to add grass strips on both sides of the road.
 - B. Ralph Herbst moved to table bike and pedestrian issues until the next meeting. Passed unanimously.
4. Discussion/motion to have our chair to send a letter to the Select Board recommending that our committee remain at 7 members. Passed unanimously.
5. Other items – Ralph suggested the chair be exempt from taking minutes. No decision was made. The chair will post agendas and minutes with the Town Clerk. A question was raised about how often we will report to the Select Board (minimum once a year).
6. Mr. Pavin (Chat) wants 3-hour parking limit downtown enforced.
7. Next meeting: 8/27 @ 7PM via Zoom. Meeting adjourned at 9:10.
Ralph Herbst, recorder.