

NB Downtown Development Committee  
Minutes 2/18/20

Meeting opened: 6:34 PM

In attendance: Sheila Orsi, Ethan Melad, Marilynn Borst, Sharon Donovan, Dawn Sedlier, Matt Sedlier, Gemma Wilkes

Discussion of downtown pocket park status

- Trees came down, per Select board (John Tripp)
- 20 ft. tree donated
- Sheila: Police Chief Smith will take aerial photos of park with drone to send to CMRPC for renderings

Discussion of (lack of/difficulty with) communication with Select Board, other committees

- Why do relevant committees not hear about decisions/work being done that directly relates to said committee?
  - Actions have already been taken with regard to benches, trees, speed monitors without any info given to DDC
- Playground, NBCares, etc, are also not getting info about issues or projects they are involved with
- We should revisit & arrange a quarterly (or more frequent) multi-committee check-in

Sheila organized breakout groups to work on strategic plan goals at the meeting:

Complete Streets group & Strategic Plan Goals group

Gemma took time to go over the Complete Streets process:

- We can receive up to \$400k/year, but we're not likely to receive all- smaller amounts are more likely
- Sharon pointed out the sidewalk on Main St. from senior housing > downhill is in bad shape
  - accessibility is a good angle to approach funding these projects

Strategic plan workshop group discussed some goals:

- Plan for who needs to know what, and when in order to optimize scheduling and prevent overlap
- Make sure Selectmen & Highway are on emails
  - Let them know what we're working on (park, complete streets, strategic plan, etc.)

Breakout Group outcome:

Complete Streets Group

Discussed sidewalk priorities. Projects for locations include sidewalks, ADA access, safety, etc. These locations are:

- Mt. Pleasant > Summer
  - sidewalks (poor, fair)
  - need ramps

- need paving
- Spring St. > Summer on Congregational church side
  - no sidewalk existing
  - can we push wall back to add sidewalk?
  - remove parking?
- Hannaford intersection (S. Main & Gilbert)
  - Add/redesign crosswalks, possibly with intersection re-shaping
  - Intersection redirection
  - Traffic calming
  - Sidewalk/crosswalk on S. Main (Hannaford side) to help divert walkers from dangerous crossing
- Downtown > Senior Ctr.
  - Via sidewalks, Central St > S. Common is best route
- S. Main corridor > Ward St.
- Walnut > Ward > Arch
- Summer > Main > Union
- School > Main > Police
- Main > Vibram
- Bike paths to encourage cycling, show interest in alternative modes of transport, illustrate best bike routes
  - Main St. > Rail trail > School

Traffic Safety- the two main spots which are problematic for traffic are

- Hannaford
- Main/Summer

#### Strategic Plan Goals Workshop

Group Suggested:

- Committee consolidation
  - Playground/Rail Trail/Town Park > 'Recreation Committee'
- Green Community status
  - Request more info from Kerrie

#### Follow-up action

- Sheila will contact SB re: committee status meetings
- Gemma will work on complete streets spreadsheet
- Gemma/Sheila organize stakeholder meeting re: sidewalks, etc. for complete streets
- Sharon: gathered info about Community Preservation Act, will discuss further

Adjourned 8:18PM

