

Town of Guilford
Safe Streets Committee
First Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, June 12, 2019
7pm at Guilford Community Center
Menunkatuck Room

Members present:

JB-Jim Bussman

LM-Louis Mackall

MS-Melissa Shaw

BE-Bill Eggers

SP-Sarah Prown

TS-Tim Sperry

SG-Sam Gerritz

DR-Dick Reynolds

SW-Sarah Williams

HH-Helen Higgins

MS-Mia Samsel

MJK-Mary Jo Kestner

KS-Kimberly Schmid

Absent: Dolores Hayden

Town Officials

MH-Matt Hoey- First Selectman

JP-Janice Plaziak- Town Engineer

GK-George Kral- town planning

MM-Mike Mikolay- GPD, Police commissioner

1. Introduction of members
2. Opening remarks - First Selectman Matt Hoey
 - a. \$350,000 secured in funding but process will include a lot of public input in light of Greenway and Nut Plains discussions. Intent is to all voices/opinions to be heard pro and con with a diverse opinion from different sections of town.
 - b. Focus is cyclist, runners, walkers, and drivers
 - c. 5 sidewalk petitions presented to Board of Selectman: Sunrise, water street, Little Meadow Rd (duplicate), Long Hill park to rt1
 - d. Alternative transportation funds-reallocated to Rt 77 to I95 interchange past the Guilford Art Center. Accident data suggests this is identified spot with problems. \$1.5 million project
 - e. Award recently received- Boston Street cemetery (Rt 146) to route one through and past Soundview Rd. \$264,000 state funds
3. Other town officials present:
 - a. Mike Mikolay- police commissioner representing GPD & Police commissioner
 - b. George Kral- Town Planner
 - c. Janice Plaziak- Town Engineer
4. Nominations of Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair & Secretary)
 - a. **Chair- Sam Gerritz**- MS nominates Sam Gerritz; Second by MJK. Close nomination motion by KS. All in favor of Sam Gerritz as chair. All opposed- none
 - b. Vice-chair- wait a few meetings to determine
 - c. Tried to find a clerk but it's not been found yet. Strictly role for taking minutes.
 - d. SG- nominates **Melissa Shaw as secretary**, second MJK, close nomination motion by KS. Unanimous decision to nominate. Motion to approve to approve – all in favor. All opposed- none
5. Motion to move agenda item #7 ahead of #5, JS second, All in favor- all, no one opposed.

6. Updates from Engineering, Planning & Zoning and Police Dept
 - a. GK- have ongoing ad hoc program building new sidewalks as part of new commercial development. When project is initially proposed, most situations involve the developer to create sidewalks.
 - b. Sidewalks have been built on Route 1 (west), Soundview Drive, and Goose Lane.
 - c. Rt 1 West development – recent development has created patchwork of sidewalks that aren't connecting (Specifically Guilford Texaco to shopping areas). Plan is for a town funded project to build sidewalks that are missing for continuous sidewalks. Near West Lake Ave is a priority for sidewalk.
 - d. Rt 1 West- gaps Guilford Texaco and shopping area is priority
 - e. How many do we pay as a town- G from P&Z it's the developer
 - f. Rt1 East- substantial drainage was funded by town but for the most part it's funded by developer. Currently this ordinance involves developers; private developers could be potentially added to town guidelines
 - g. SG- how are crosswalk signage created?
 - i. MM
 1. signage under GPD authority. GPD act as LTA (local traffic authority) guidelines for paving, signage, speed limits etc. P&Z do not regulate signs
 2. State has ultimate word on speeds. Signs need to be approved by local traffic authority.
 3. Crosswalks falls under GPD, police commission reviews proposal and work with state/town road.
 - h. JP- can't have mass discussion via email that qualifies as a meeting. If less than half (not meeting quorum) that's a discussion and conversation can be brought to committee.
 - i. JP-
 - i. sidewalk inspector, responsible for repair/maintenance of all sidewalks.
 - ii. Oversees budget for sidewalk repair. Ordinance is on town to replace sidewalk
 - iii. Any new sidewalks put in separate for p&z do have to be approved by BOS.
 - iv. Two larger project initiatives
 1. rte 77 project (1.5 million, town responsible for 20% match working designs and changes to signals; sidewalk will be on the west side of the road, improving the signage for the crossing. East side presented challenges falling outside of budget. Final design is not done but looking to extend to Hubbard road).
 2. Boston Street is in-house design, north side of the road, crossing at Soundview . Culvert crossing is causing more money than expected and might not extend to route 1 (Watertown) Town has gotten confirmation of money but not yet received.

- v. Would like committee to consider undertaking requirements where town is required to have an ADA transition plan. Consider trying to have the transition plan created; identifies deficiencies in ADA compliance.
 - vi. Aspects 2003 transportation that have been completed: Saw mill road bridge project- several hundred feet of roadway construction. State committed to fund sidewalk (west side) on this road.
 - vii. GIS system has inventory of sidewalks. Kevin McGee overlooks GIS funding
 - viii. Some roads are old roads, involving legal issues regarding expansion of “town roads”. Some legal issues might arise in order to obtain the legal rights to do that.
- j. MM-Snow removal by commercial- adjacent property owners are responsible for snow removal, hedge removal. Citations can be issued for ordinance adherence.
 - k. GK/MM- State has authority on ROW and can add a sign for safety. Recent initiatives forming projects on behalf of the town and added signs. That was requested and approved by town and state implemented it. Rt 77 signage project (all state routes) adding curvature signs will be updated in the near future to the new mandates.
 - l. JP-Federal highway requirement – new signs have to have a certain level of reflectivity.
 - m. MiaS- can you make available to use the sidewalk ordinance- available online town website “Charter ordinances” is within this. **SEND OUT THAT LINK.**
 - n. SG- who initiates traffic surveys. Roads are classified by state. Functional classification map helps determine how major a road is. Police commission has some ability to traffic studies. Requires town and state approval
 - o. MM-Flashing speed signs are data collections as well deployed by GPD. Have 3 in inventory in town, cost is \$3,000. Can identify when and where high traffic/speeding occurs. Information is downloaded by hour, number of cars, high speed, low speed, average speed. Not detailed information. Traffic cameras are not allowed. It is a deterrent not a policing tool. All traffic tickets go to the state only since it is a state violation not a town violation.
 - p. MM- interested in adding input/knowledge of law enforcement. Will see rotation of GPD representatives. Traffic unit has data that can be helpful. Data is captured in all accident reports. It is a searchable database. **SG to send out that link.** Can search accidents that involve pedestrians i.e but stick to 2015 and sooner for more detailed reports. Police cruisers don’t have ability to focus solely on traffic stops.
 - q. GPD resources- Traffic repository is available of information.
Any information on traffic issues are available in the monthly minutes.
 - r. West 146 is a different committee will be addressed by a different committee. Joint project between Guilford and Branford designed to address flooding, recreation, traffic issues. Project is funded by it is a 2 town project. Interest in this committee can talk about to First Selectman’s office. Counsel of Government will select members starting this week. State members will be

involved because it is a state road. Prescribed type of study- 18-24 month period- budget is \$130K approx.

- s. MM- there is a sidewalk downtown project coming up.
7. Voting on officers by members- see above
8. Development of mission statement- to be discussed next meeting based on 2016 Transportation Report
9. Definition of objectives and deliverables
 - a. MJK- Macro vision as opposed to micro vision
 - b. MiaS- take advantage of existing of 2003 transportation plan and update to recent time; SG -recognizes the town has smaller sections that have transportation needs that needs to be addressed.
 - c. Send out 2003 transportation plan <http://www.ci.guilford.ct.us/wp-content/uploads/guilford-transportation-plan-5-Maps.pdf>
 - d. Expanded Complete Streets
 - e. ACTION ITEM- committee to review Madison BPAC policies and 2003 transportation plan prior to next meeting
 - f. Create google doc with all publically available docs to review:
 - i. Sidewalk ordinance
 - ii. Traffic accident information MM mentioned
 - iii.
10. Discussion of Sub-Group formation
11. Meetings Schedules- Second Thursday of the month 7PM
12. Public Comment- no one present
13. Adjournment- MJK motion to adjourn, MS second, adjourned.