

# BRISTOL CORE BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, September 19, 2018, 9:00 AM  
Holley Hall

## Meeting Minutes

*Prepared by Kelly Hamshaw*

**Attendees** – Ian Albinson, Aidan Lenihan, Meridith McFarland, Valerie Capels, Kelly Hamshaw

### Scheduled Appointments

A. Eric Cota, Foreman - Town Highway Department

**Main Street Project** – no new updates since last meeting. Valerie is working on putting together the RFP to hire an engineer to make a plan. Currently, the project is under-funded. CORE is interested in learning more about snow removal practices so that we can plan ahead.

**Plowing** – Sidewalks are done early for school. Depending on the storm, maybe 2-3 days. We try to avoid sanding on Main St. to avoid tracking sand into the businesses. Most businesses take care of their own. Early morning priority is to get Main St. downtown and parking spaces to open Main St by 5:30 AM – especially with the narrowing of Main St. on the east end of town. Sidewalks then cleared by the tractor. Large amounts of snow will get pushed over Basin St with a “pusher” attached to the loader. Discussion of how best to remove snow from the stamped concrete? Aiden summarizes the constraints and issues of snow in the downtown block. Could we change the v-blade to a one-way? Ideal would be to keep doing it way we’re doing it from Eric’s perspective. Curbing should be installed below or flush with the stamped concrete and the pusher should work okay. Ian asks about the pedestals on the lamp posts. Using the blower it takes much more time (5 hours vs 1.5 hours). The sidewalk in Prince Lane is maintained by the town – could use curb bumpers to keep cars from pulling in too close. Ian asks if there is a clarification on existing policy or new policy from the town that could be used to help delineate responsibilities. An ordinance could be created to enable fining. Eric says that they used to try to repair the current lampposts and it’s difficult to find parts for the ones we currently have.

**Champlain Farms Issue** – Eric suggests a painted crosswalk if we could get landowners permission. End the sidewalk at Holley Hall, remove the sidewalk in front of the Post Office and consider a stormwater management project. Replace Merchants Bank drain to Post Office drain. Unclear if drain in front Post Office runs towards Champlain Farms or Merchants. It would be beyond the scope of Public Works. Depending upon VTRANS plan for curb-to-curb vs travel lane portion. Eric suggests the curb-to-curb approach.

Ian asks what could be done to improve the sidewalk right of way area from the Shaw’s driveway. We could stripe a crosswalk across the driveway. Eric recalls that they had done it

in the past but stopped doing it (driveway vs road). Would be good to review what led to no longer maintaining the striping.

### **New items**

- Police Chief Nason will be sworn in at 4:30 on Monday, Oct 1<sup>st</sup> at Holley Hall.
- The Town has received a substantial donation from the Andrew Johnson Estate that will be unrestricted.
- Meredith worked on assessing recreation opportunities – missing biking and water sport opportunities. Information for connecting with different opportunities for outdoor gear
- September 26<sup>th</sup> – meeting at the Hub about the future of Recreation Dept. Ian suggests ensuring that youth voice is important. Steering Committee's mission is to find statement of facts to pull essential information together. Town-wide vote in March is to approve borrowing for project. Committee will work with an architect to get a basic sketch of the building. \$165K plus \$30K for planning if passes.

### **Open items**

#### Sidewalk Beautification Expansion

- Ian has been doing research on the lights and swapping to LEDs.

#### Intersection Plantings

- Aiden and Ian will have a meeting about
- Aim to get the baskets down on September 29<sup>th</sup> with 6 volunteers with three sets of drills.
- Will need to re-enamel the baskets for next year.

#### Certified Local Government (CLG) Program

- Devin gave a presentation to the Selectboard on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>
- Valerie believes that they were inspired but didn't want to commit on the spot
- Valerie would like to know if the Design Review Commission would be willing/interested to act in the dual capacity. Ian will follow-up. If agreeable, then the DRC should present a draft ordinance.
- There is existing precedent for DRC/DRBs to also act as the Historic Preservation.

#### Downtown Speed Reduction and Pedestrian Safety Project

- J-braking: Eric suggests that we post signs "please limit engine brakes in downtown".
- White lines on crosswalks across the West St. are slick.
- Chief Nason is researching whether current grant dollars could be used towards speed signs, etc. from the Governor's Highway Safety Program in addition to town budget appropriation.
- Ian discussed speed reduction with Richmond Town Administrator.
- Valerie suggests that we be mindful about sign clutter.
- Look into the Safe Routes to School Program.
- Discussed the crosswalk from Irving into the Village Creemee Stand.
- Possible additional crosswalk at the Fire Station from the Recreation fields.

Bristol Bucks – Ian is working on updating Bristol Bucks and gift envelopes.

**Next Meeting** – October 17, 2018