

Town and County of Nantucket
ROADS AND RIGHT OF WAY COMMITTEE

Posted Meeting of
December 19, 2023, at 4:00 pm
Held by Zoom Videoconferencing and Live in the 131 Pleasant Street Conference Room

FINAL AND APPROVED MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Approval of the Agenda, Approval of Minutes, and Public Comments.

A. Chair Bill Grieder called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm; he read the public notice about attendance at remote meetings. In attendance were committee members Rick Atherton, Nelson “Snookie” Eldridge, Ed Gillum (4:08 pm), Bill Grieder, Nat Lowell (4:05 pm), Rob Ranney, Allen Reinhard, Lee Saperstein. and Phil Smith; there was a quorum at all times. Participants were established by voice roll call. Guests included Mike Burns, Manager of Transportation Planning, and Drew Patnode, Director, DPW.

The meeting was recorded and can be viewed on the Town’s You Tube site (on Town’s main web page as “Watch Meetings Live”, select “Playlists” then look for “Roads and Right of Way”),

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okLlRfnYl0g&list=PL49sKqpy7VAi_AArzhvnU4I5DTnhiVDj1&index=40.

B. Approval of the Agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously by acclamation.

C. Public Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda.

With no members of the public present, there were no public comments.

D. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of October 31, 2023.

Approval of the October minutes was deferred to January’s meeting.

2. Meet Andrew Patnode, DPW Director

Bill Grieder introduced Andrew (Drew) Patnode, Director DPW, who is an *ex officio* member of the committee, to introduce himself and answer questions about the DPW. This discussion occupied the bulk of the meeting. Drew Patnode thanked him and said that he would coordinate his and DPW’s efforts with the committee’s work as best as he could. Bill Grieder pointed to the Projects List attached to the agenda (and repeated below), which is maintained as an easy directory of the committee’s aims. For example, the committee has been examining the public way to the beach between 51 and 55 Nobadeer Avenue; he noted that a mown path would be helpful. 41 Nobadeer Avenue is under construction and has, consequently, blocked a public footpath. The committee will check on access once the construction is complete. Phil Smith suggested that Drew Patnode might wish to review the list and let the committee have his

comments on the listed items. Bill Grieder noted that two other items, installation of Public Way monuments and maintenance of the 'Sconset Bluff Footpath, are significant items of collaboration.

Lee Saperstein asked Drew Patnode if he had a general perspective on the DPW and his role as Director. Nat Lowell added that he was interested in Drew Patnode's attitude toward the role of the Committee on Roads and Right of Way, particularly on encroachments and sidepaths (aka sidewalks). The creation of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and the Traffic Safety Work Group makes for cross-over responsibilities. Guidance on ways that this committee can contribute would be helpful. Allen Reinhard remarked that the Committee is appointed by the Select Board with a mission to advise it, particularly on matters of public access. He noted that that DPW's broad range of responsibilities also includes maintenance of public-access ways. Because of the committee's history of advising on the taking of private roads and of creating needed sidepath, he was wondering about the DPW's input into the Town's capital planning. He noted that the Projects List included a list of desired sidepaths.

Drew Patnode said that he has met already with Massachusetts Department of Transportation, MassDOT, officials on the need for and design of needed rotaries on Nantucket. Related road projects are underway and the State has given assistance on planning computer programs and on coordination of transportation planning. Snookie Eldridge pointed out that a roundabout and right-hand turning lanes were needed at the intersection of Milestone and Nobadeer Farm roads. Milestone is a state road said Nat Lowell; Mike Burns, Transportation Planner, noted that the State has approved the Town's preferred design alternative for these roads.

Lee Saperstein said that the Committee is available to help the DPW, particularly as a sounding board. Mike Burns noted that there will be a Public Information meeting on January 26th at 6:00 pm to share proposed work on the Polpis Road. Bill Grieder asked specifically about planning progress on the needed Pleasant Street sidewalks, including those on Williams Lane. Mike Burns replied that BPAC has made an initial recommendation to pilot an one-way scheme around Sparks Avenue, Atlantic Avenue, Pleasant Street, and Williams Lane, which would make these streets into an extra-large rotary. If this scheme is infeasible, then the preferred alternative would be to create wider sidewalks on Pleasant Street. Bill Grieder asked about coordination with re-building the four corners area (Sparks, Surfside, Prospect, and Atlantic). Drew Patnode noted that this intersection, as well as Atlantic Avenue, are part of the force-main sewer project and will be re-built as part of the scheduled work on this project. Ed Gillum pointed out that North Liberty Street needs sidewalks and Nat Lowell opined that many of Nantucket's narrow streets would be made more passable with lowered curbs.

Bill Grieder thanked Drew Patnode for the great amount of time that he had given the committee; it was 4:57 pm.

3. DEP Chapter 91 request for comments (44-46 Easton Street Chapter 91 application)

Bill Grieder told the committee that he had, on its behalf, responded to the Department of Environmental Protection with their request for comments on the application for a Chapter 91 License for 44-46 Easton Street. The notice, he explained came out after the committee's

previous meeting and set a deadline before this meeting. The correspondence is attached. Phil Smith asked for the applicant's written response to be shared with the committee. Lee Saperstein felt that a separate Chapter 91 file should be established. Phil Smith added that Carlos Fragata (Waterways) and Steve McKenna (Coastal Zone Management) are the personnel at DEP who have been to Nantucket and could be contacted if necessary.

4. Oct 27th Bluff Walk update: Bill, Allen, Ed, Snookie.

Bill Grieder said that the written report of the visit to the Bluff Walk will be forthcoming. The subcommittee members had made a property-by-property examination of the status of encroachments and blockage of licensed beach steps. Ed Gillum asked, as a tangent to this report, about problems reported earlier on Bosworth Road and Wanoma Way. Bill Grieder said the problem was resolved. Ed Gillum added that we should continue to monitor Jefferson Avenue and Snookie Eldridge added that Bunker Hill Road in 'Sconset should be taken as a public way.

5. Other Business and Member Comments.

Nat Lowell expressed his appreciation for the amount of time and input given by Drew Patnode to the committee. Ed Gillum concurred and said that we should continue to push for coordination.

7. Adjournment.

At this point, Bill Grieder noted that it was time for adjournment: Snookie Eldridge so moved, Nat Lowell seconded, and approval was given unanimously by roll-call vote.

Adjournment came at 5:19 pm.

Next meeting: 4:00 pm, January 16, 2024.

Roads & ROW Ongoing Projects List

Public Way Monument Project: *(Lee & Allen & Snookie)*

Update file of existing monuments

- In progress as of 7/25/2023

Install remaining monuments at Sconset Footpath, Hulbert Ave., and other locations

- Need scheduling with DPW as of 7/25/2023

Land Bank to install monuments at Westchester St. Ext. & Crooked Lane

- Land Bank to install monuments when they complete their access project as of 7/25/2023

Public Way Access Maintenance

- DPW work orders have been issued for the maintenance of the public path between 51 and 55 Nobadeer Ave, including brush cutting, and also to restore access to the public access path at 18 Nobadeer Avenue. Need assistance in determining the exact location of the Hawthorne Street beach public access to avoid any encroachment on private property. as of 7/25/2023
- Reestablish access at 18 Nobadeer Avenue
- To be completed during homeowner construction project as of 7/25/2023

Sidewalk Projects: *(Lee & Allen)*

Wauwinet Road Sidepath

- This project is being managed by FHWA's Eastern Federal Lands-Highway Division. An agreement with the Town describes the survey and preliminary design process on-going from April 2023 to May 2024. This will identify resources that may be impacted and the design options to minimize impacts. Staff has met with the homeowner groups for Pocomo and Polpis to discuss the status and potential elements of the project that could be funding with private donations.

as of 7/25/2023

Tom Nevers Sidepath

- This project is being reviewed by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). BPAC is reviewing options at the head of the path at the intersection with Milestone Road, which includes a rest area and design features that inform users of the history of Tom Nevers. Other design options include a boardwalk option on Land Bank property, options for crossing Old Tom Nevers Road, and alignment options for the end of the path to the fields that minimize right-of-way impacts. as of 7/25/2023

Cliff Road Coffin Park to bike path at Sherburne Turnpike

- Request sent to Selectboard to add to future sidewalk list. as of 7/25/2023

Pleasant St. Gardner Perry Lane to Williams St.

- This segment of the larger project for Complete Street improvements along Pleasant Street is being reviewed with the Williams Lane sidewalk by BPAC. The Committee is reviewing options for both bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. A one-way traffic flow option would be an optimal accommodation for bicyclists with a sidepath while retaining a two-way option would only accommodate pedestrians with a five-foot sidewalk. Options for Pleasant Street and Williams Lane are being reviewed with associated benefits and impacts to right-of-way, traffic flow, and safety for all users.

as of 7/25/2023

Lovers Lane Bike path/ road reconstruction

This project is being managed by Town Administration and DPW. Staff meets each week with the engineer, GPI, to discuss steps to advance the design from preliminary to final design now that funding for permitting and construction has been approved. as of

7/25/2023

Follow implementation of downtown sidewalk improvements

- DPW set to resume work on the center street sidewalk between Quince and Gay Street this fall. as of 7/25/2023
- DPW will proceed with the renovation of the sidewalk between Center Street and India Street on the odd-numbered side of the center focus on repairing the sidewalk on S. Water St., between Main Street and Cambridge Street on the even-numbered side. The remainder of S. Water St. on the even-numbered side was already addressed last fall.

Bike/Pedestrian connection from Surfside to Hummock Pond to Madaket paths

- Land takings completed – needs Town Meeting funding as of 7/25/2023

Prospect Street sidewalk from Milk Street to Madaket bike path

- Unfeasible to complete past Quaker Cemetery footprint.
- Need to develop alternative route, possible down Vestal St to Wynn Street to Madaket Road. as of 7/25/2023

Chapter 91 Monitor Project: *(Lee, Rick, Phil)*

GIS department head Nathan Porter making available online (Phil Smith reviewing) as of 7/25/2023

Chapter 91 Licenses

- Requested ConCom to copy RROW on any received applications or notices as of 7/25/2023
- Nantucket and Madaket Harbors Action Plan Update Committee Identify licenses along route for the Harbor
Walk ○ Committee conducting public survey (Phil Smith reviewing) as of 7/25/2023

Nantucket Greenway and Trail System Project: *(Allen, Lee)*

Nantucket Central Railroad trail map of existing portions of route

- Locations identified at Easy Street, Washington Street extension, Naushop development and Bayberry Commons to Surfside as of 7/25/2023

Island Trail Map with all walking trails

- Land Bank and Conservation Foundation have publications as of 7/25/2023

Sconset Bluff Walk Subcommittee Review: *(Allen, Ed, Nat)*

- Reviewed sign verbiage and locations, maintenance, encroachments
 - Need to address encroachments on walkway
 - Identified (2) locations for monument installation
 - Sign Advisory Council Meeting approved new signage application as of 10/25/2023

Attachment: Chapter 91 Correspondence for 44-46 Easton Street.

From: Bill Grieder <bill.grieder@gmail.com>
Subject: Waterways License Application Number 23-WW16-0002-APP
Date: November 22, 2023 at 12:48:01 PM EST
To: frank.taormina@mass.gov
Cc: Reinhard Allen <allenreinhard@yahoo.com>

Waterways License Application Number 23-WW16-0002-APP
Applicant: Auburn Cottage, LLC & Forty-Four Easton Street
Project Location: 44-46 Easton Street, Nantucket, Nantucket County
Notification Date: October 23, 2023
Public Hearing: October 30, 2023
Public Comments Deadline: November 22, 2023

Frank Taormina
frank.taormina@mass.gov
(617) 292-5551

November 22, 2023

Dear Mr. Taormina,

Responding to a request for comments from RROW on the 44-46 Easton Street c 91 application.

The 2023 draft plot plan for 44-46 shows a 5ft public access path on the north side of 42-44 from Easton Street to the water. What sort of signage or marking will be placed at the Easton Street end? Will there be required verbiage on the posting and who will install the marker?

There is an established Chap. 91 Access from Harbor View Way across the waterside length of the property on 50 Easton Street. It is our understanding there is also public access across the waterside of 42B Easton Street through 16 Easton Street. It would seem appropriate to install steps at the East end of 50 Easton Street to connect the public's ability to walk from 50 Easton Street onto the beach at 44-46 Easton Street to facilitate the public access.

The Nantucket Roads and Right of Way Committee (RROW) is working to improve and maintain the public access to the waterway from the Greater Harbor Yacht Club property on Washington Street extension to Brant Point on Easton Street. The above-mentioned suggestions will help us achieve that goal.

Bill Grieder
RROW Chairman
E bill.grieder@gmail.com

From: "Taormina, Frank (DEP)" <frank.taormina@mass.gov>
Subject: RE: Waterways License Application Number 23-WW16-0002-APP
Date: November 22, 2023 at 1:21:58 PM EST
To: Bill Grieder <bill.grieder@gmail.com>
Cc: Reinhard Allen <allenreinhard@yahoo.com>

Mr. Grieder,

Thank you for submitting written comments to the Department on the referenced Chapter 91 Waterways License Application for 44-46 Easton St, Nantucket. The Applicant is required to provide the Department with a written response to all public comments received during the public comment period, and sent a copy of such to all people/parties that submitted public comments. Then Department will then consider all public comments, and the Applicant's responses thereto, when drafting our decision.

The Department will copy you on any future decision rendered on this waterways application.

Thank you and hope you have a great
Thanksgiving! Frank



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