

ROADS AND RIGHT OF WAY COMMITTEE

**Posted Meeting of
March 18, 2025, at 4:00 pm
Held in Zoom only Format**

MINUTES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Call to Order

Chairman Grieder opened the meeting at 4:05 pm.

Attendees on Zoom: Bill Grieder, Lee Saperstein, Allen Reinhard, Phil Smith and Rick Atherton. Also in attendance was Bob Bystrowski, Town Real Estate Specialist.

Motion - acceptance of the February 18, 2025, minutes

Motion to accept made by Allen Reinhard, second by Rick Atherton.

Accepted by vote: Bill Grieder, Lee Saperstein, Allen Reinhard, Phil Smith and Rick Atherton

Public Comment (items not on the agenda)

None

Quick recap

The committee discussed various projects and initiatives, including the potential for a rail trail, the status of their website and mapping paper roads, and the ongoing discussions about raising Easy Street. They also reviewed the draft of the harbor plan, their website's vision and mission statement, and the need for a compiled list of Chapter 91 licenses still on Nantucket. The team expressed concerns about the lack of understanding and resources regarding Chapter 91 and the need for better access to information. Phil offered to take a leadership role in addressing this issue.

Roads and Right Away Committee Update

The meeting began with a discussion about the status of the Roads and Right Away Committee and an update on Stone Alley. However, due to scheduling conflicts, these topics were deferred. The committee then discussed their lack of input in the Easy Street project, with Lee expressing disappointment at not being able to provide committee input. Allen clarified that he was part of the Land Bank Commission and the Subcommittee discussing the Easy Street project.

The committee discussed the status of their work on updating their website and mapping paper roads on Nantucket. Lee mentioned a detailed surveyor's map that shows paper roads if identified, which is more precise than the GIS on their website. Bill raised concerns about potential changes to the committee's duties and organization. They also talked about updating their website, including archiving old content and adding a current list of roads maintained by the DPW. Lee pointed out an existing but outdated map on the town's website showing public and private ways. The committee expressed frustration about not being included in discussions about their future role.

Bill, Phil, and Lee discussed the vision and mission statement on their website, which was adopted in 2009. Phil mentioned the committee's representatives from various organizations and their ongoing meetings. Lee warned Phil about potential conflicts with the select board. Phil emphasized the

importance of actionable recommendations with associated groups for their committee. Bill suggested a future meeting to discuss potential changes in their role.

Summary Rail Trail Discussion and Historic Markers

Lee and Rick discussed the potential for a rail trail from South Wharf to Sconset, with Rick suggesting that Bob could be their agent. Lee mentioned that the railroad crosses the middle moors and that there has been reluctance from the conservation foundation due to its boring nature. Bob agreed to follow the rail bed. Lee suggested the possibility of historic markers on town-owned land. Alan mentioned a historical marker about the railroad in a little park on Easy Street, but Lee couldn't find it.

Washington Street Work Group Proposals

The Washington Street work group has proposed three different designs for a sidewalk and bike path along Francis Street Beach, focusing on protecting the area from sea level rise while maintaining the view of the water. Allen, who is part of this group, explained that they are working with a landscaping firm and considering options such as an elevated walkway. The project aims to protect Washington Street, the main access to downtown, while ensuring pedestrian and bicycle safety. Separately, there are ongoing discussions about raising Easy Street, which presents additional challenges due to property ownership issues and potential impacts on pedestrian access.

Harbor Plan Draft and Public Access

Phil discussed the draft of the harbor plan, which is about a month away from being ready for public access. The plan includes recommendations for public access to the water and a potential new boat ramp. Phil also mentioned that the committee is working on cataloging what they have and what they need. Bill suggested compiling a list of items for a status update, but Phil clarified that he wouldn't send anything out from the plan until it's ready. Rick proposed sending out the existing charge to the committee from the Selectboard, which forms the basis of their mission. Phil suggested having something in writing in front of the committee for their next meeting, which is two weeks away.

Chapter 91 License Discussion

Phil expressed concerns about the lack of understanding and resources regarding Chapter 91, with no clear repository or leadership. Allen recalled a meeting with a representative from the State and Jeff Carlson, which went into detail about Chapter 91's implications for Nantucket. However, there was no follow-up or action taken. Phil suggested that the committee could take a leadership role in this matter, as there seems to be no other interested party. Lee shared that permitting authorities are reluctant to make permits publicly accessible, but they can be viewed in person. The committee discussed the need for better access to information and potential action to address this issue.

The team also discussed the need for a compiled list of Chapter 91 licenses still on Nantucket, which was promised by Jeff Carlson. Phil offered to speak to Jeff about the possibility of a group helping him with this task. The team also discussed the challenge of finding a link to a Chapter 91 call or presentation, with Bill suggesting contacting the person who made the presentation. The next meeting was scheduled for April 15th, which will be in a hybrid format.

Compiling List of Pending Items

Bill initiated a discussion to compile a list of pending items. Lee mentioned that only a few items remained open for discussion, including Amelia, Wind Street, Friendship Lane, and a couple of others. Allen emphasized the importance of actively participating in projects and suggested that the committee could assist with tasks like replacing deteriorating

public way monuments. Bill asked the committee to send him any ideas or issues they wanted to address, so they could be consolidated into a single list.

Next steps

- Bill to compile a list of ongoing projects and items on the committee's punch list based on input from other members. Committee members asked to send Bill items for the ongoing projects/punch list.
- Phil to speak with Jeff Carlson about the committee potentially helping with Chapter 91 documentation.
- Bob to reach out to Frank Taormina (or his successor) regarding the Chapter 91 presentation.
- Bill to send the compiled list of ongoing projects/punch list items to the board, Bob, and Tracy.
- The next meeting, April 15th, will be in a hybrid format.

Motion to Adjourn: made by Allen Reinhard, second by Rick Atherton.

Motion Adopted: Accepted by vote: Bill Grieder, Lee Saperstein, Allen Reinhard, Phil Smith and Rick Atherton

Next Meeting: April 15, 2025, at 4:00 pm in hybrid format