

TOWN OF NANTUCKET
ROADS AND RIGHT-OF-WAY COMMITTEE
Final and Approved Meeting Minutes – March 17, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lee Saperstein called the meeting to order at 3:54 PM. The meeting was recorded: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXCdMN6AkeQ>.

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: Rick Atherton (leave at 4:30 pm), Gordon Auchterlonie, Snookie Eldridge, Ed Gillum, Alan Reinhard, Phil Smith, Lee Saperstein (Chair). There was a quorum at all times. Staff/Ex Officio Present: Mike Burns, Drew Patnode, Robert Bystrowski, Tracy MacDonald.

Guests: Debora Goudemond (New Committee Organizer), Neil Paterson, Yordan Petkov, Jim Mondani.

Absent: Nat Lowell, Rob Ranney

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Mondani raised concerns regarding the Select Board's decisions on Sconset Bluff, arguing that public access rights must be preserved and cautioning against private control of public ways. Chair Saperstein responded that the Board's decisions were advisory and based on suggestions rather than being binding mandates.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The committee reviewed the minutes from the December 16, 2025, meeting.

Motion: To accept the December minutes as presented.

Moved/Seconded: Unanimously approved by roll-call vote (Gillum, Reinhardt, Smith, Saperstein: Aye).

5. COMMITTEE TRANSITION

Lee Saperstein provided a detailed update on the transition from the Roads and Right-of-Way Committee to the new Transportation and Public Access Committee. This new body will feature six at-large members, three members appointed by other town boards, and four ex officio members (Mike Burns, Drew Patnode, Gary Roberts, NRTA and Bob Bystrowski). The transition will occur through the town's standard repopulation process.

6. PROJECT UPDATES & PRESENTATIONS

- Pleasant Street Sidewalks: Mike Burns presented five design alternatives for the corridor between Silver Street and Main Street. Discussion focused on the trade-offs between preserving mature trees, maintaining on-street parking, and meeting sidewalk safety standards. A public survey is live through March 31 to gather community feedback. Ed

Gillum and Phil Smith expressed concerns regarding the impact of tree removal on the neighborhood character.

- Surfside Road & Amelia Drive: Mike Burns updated the committee on the Surfside Road intersection pilot (four-way stop), running April 6 – May 4. For Amelia Drive, the committee discussed a potential one-way traffic flow pilot for the section from Waitt Drive to Ticoma Way to address current bottlenecks.

- Tom Nevers Bike Path & Newtown Road: Drew Patnode reported that drainage and roadway sub-base installation for the bike path are progressing well, with completion expected in Summer 2027. For Newtown Road, staff are finalizing voluntary easements with two property owners before bidding out the project this fall.

7. DPW OPERATIONS (Drew Patnode)

- Seasonal Maintenance: Crews are currently focused on Potholes and storm cleanup Potholes and road shoulder restoration to protect roadway pavement.

- Paving & Striping: The asphalt plant is reopening soon; high-priority targets include Polpis Road milling and overlay. The annual line striping contractor visit is scheduled for June 13 to refresh crosswalks and center lines.

8. POLICY & NEW BUSINESS

- Encroachment Policy: Bob Bystrowski and Tracy MacDonald discussed draft amendments to the encroachment policy. The goal is to improve consistency in licensing, particularly for historical encroachments, and to ensure homeowners are charged fees closer to actual costs rather than triple labor rates.

- Public Way Monuments: Neil Patterson has offered to donate and install six granite monuments. The committee recommended prioritizing the replacement of deteriorating concrete markers at Madaket /Jackson Point. The gift requires final approval from the Select Board.

- Harbor Plan: Revisions from Dept. Of State have been received, the committee will review and sign off before forwarding the plan to the Select Board.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made Ed Gillum and seconded. Alen Reinhard: Unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:34 PM.

<http://www.nantucket-ma.gov/lrtp>

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