

**Village Core Planning Group
Organizational Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2007
5:10 PM**

Attendees: Chairman John Hettinger, Rick Kelley, Paul Kasianchuk, Brian McCarthy, Ed Brisson, Paul Bartlett, Mike Peloso, Rick Russack, Mike Sabourin, Susan Chenard

Ed Brisson stopped in for a few minutes at the beginning of the meeting and asked about making sure to keep the path as close to the river as possible, versus going through the parcel owned by the Rapids developers. He also mentioned that he would not be available for the October 9th meeting. Brian McCarthy will also not be able to make that meeting.

John Hettinger told everyone that he had revised the Project Description per last meeting's notes, and made sure everyone had a copy. The next topic was to have been about Dennis Ducharme's attorney's review of the easements, which Paul Kasianchuk would report on, but he was not in attendance yet.

Marilyn Sanderson was not able to attend this meeting, but John Hettinger presented the information they had gathered regarding ball park estimate of costs. The gentleman Marilyn spoke with at NH DOT wanted to meet with the group and seemed excited about the project. Estimated costs ranged from as little as \$126,092 to as high as \$598,937 per paved mile of pathway. The group then looked at the second handout and determined that the biggest cost area would most likely be the Riverfront Park Trail, as it was the only one scheduled to be paved and might need more clearing. Most of the other portions of the trail system would be left fairly natural or just have striping.



Rick Russack next displayed the panels obtained from the Forest Service. These cost about \$700 per panel for others, plus about \$3000 for a panel building/kiosk at the park, so if we got 30 of these panels, it might cost about \$10,000, installed. The parking lot at the park will be a big cost as well, with paving there, as well as the sidewalks from the lot to the park, the bike path, the kayak launching area and the handicapped parking lot. There will also be costs involved for the kiosk, displays and benches.

Rick Kelley asked about cutting trees along the river, as he thought that the regulations would be changing next March or April to restrict that activity. Therefore, we might want to start with that portion of the project. Mike Sabourin mentioned it is the River Protection Act, as the Pemigewasset is a state protected river. Typically this means that

within the first 50 feet nothing could be cut down, then only 50% in the next 150 feet for hard trails. Mike Sabourin and Rick Kelley suggested having Steve LaFrance from Horizons Engineering or someone from Hoyle Tanner Associates (the town's engineering company) check on these regulations.

Rick Russack asked about funding. Marilyn is working on this and will have more information at the next meeting, but it looks like that will be in smaller amounts from various sources, as well as the possibility of technical assistance, versus funding, from the Forest Service. NH DOT had suggested doing small portions at a time for easier funding, by showing sections of success at a time.

The talk next swung to local fundraising efforts. Paul Bartlett offered the blank windows at the Family Dollar store as a place for both Forest Service panels and fundraising information. Mike Sabourin said that he could have his graphics guy do something for funding efforts. Rick Kelley also suggested a funding source like a resort tax on property transfers of maybe ½ of 1.0%. This has been in use at North Star and has been working well.

Paul Bartlett next asked about the right of way behind the LinWood Plaza. He felt that the exit from the parking lot should come to Main Street basically between the Plaza and Laconia Savings Bank, so as to come out right at that traffic light.

Paul Kasianchuk reported that he had just spoken with Dennis Ducharme before arriving to the meeting. Mr. Ducharme had received a lengthy email from his attorney, indicating that the easements were not as simple as we hoped they would be, but more details will come out in the next few days.

Mr. Kasianchuk invited Rick Russack to put the panels up in the Village Shops, as Jim Boyle had asked that they be put up immediately. Then eventually the panels could go by the gazebo. Rick Russack distributed a sketch of a panel structure which both the Town of Lincoln and Mike Sabourin may participate in the construction of, and if located by the gazebo, could tap into the power for lighting there. Mike Sabourin also asked about getting electronic files of the panels, as did Paul Bartlett.

Paul Kasianchuk also related that Dennis Ducharme, his engineers, the town's engineers and others had walked the path between the dike and Paul Bartlett's land to determine the best location for the path in view of an idea to put a flagged hotel on Mr. Ducharme's land. John Hettinger will touch base with Chris Mulleavey of Hoyle Tanner about this.

After a quick review, the meeting adjourned, with the next one scheduled for 5pm on October 9, 2007.