

Pedestrian Infrastructure Advisory Committee to the Darien, Connecticut, Board of Selectmen

Draft Minutes

Date: December 1, 2015

Present: Terry Duffy, Elizabeth Harmon, Ted Hawkins, Pat Morrissey, Holly Schulz-Amatruda & Bert von Stuelpnagel.

Absent: Joanna Garrett, Susanne Handler and Jennifer Morgan

Guest: Frank Adelman, RTM Public Works Committee

This was the 19th regular meeting of the Pedestrian Infrastructure Advisory Committee (PIAC) since its formation on June 30.

Chair, Beth Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. The draft minutes from the meeting of November 24 were approved without revision.

The committee returned to a discussion regarding the process, format and content for the PIAC's presentation and final report to the Selectmen. Bert distributed a first draft of his suggestions for the PowerPoint presentation before the Selectmen. Pat distributed the revised report sections on Preamble, Approach & Summary which were discussed at some length in our last meeting. Pat also handed to each committee member their individual Hot Spot presentation and asked that they review and make any final changes before he hits the print button next week. The reports total approximately 106 pages so he will have them printed double sided to cut down on bulk. These will be up on the town's website this month in pdf format. We will not be printing them in bulk due to the expense and our lack of a budget.

When reviewing Bert's presentation draft Holly suggested that we limit our presentation to just what's in the Preamble, Approach & Summary Sections and then show all of the 106 Hot Spot slides, otherwise our presentation would be incomplete. Bert and Ted felt that the volume of slides would overwhelm the focus on our summary findings and we would not have enough time to cover them all. Pat suggested that a better course of action might be to select a few slides from the Hot Spot reports to illustrate the major findings being addressed in our report. Ted was concerned that this could be a "Forest/Trees" pitfall and we'd lose the audience if we attempted to show 106+ slides. After a robust discussion Holly left the meeting. Terry then arrived.

Frank suggested that we expand our explanation of the "Complete Streets" concept and that we also try to quantify in dollars what our suggestions might, in a general sense, cost. Terry volunteered to run a consolidation of the Hot Spot report numbers. Frank also reminded the committee of potential FOIA issues. We discussed alerting and informing the town newspapers about the presentation and findings. Bert volunteered to prepare a letter to the newspapers.

The meeting next week, December 8th, will be in the YMCA Boardroom.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53.

Respectfully submitted by Ted Hawkins, Clerk