

Minutes for Montpelier Pedestrian Committee -- June 23, 2015

I. Approval of May minutes

II. Introductions

1. members present: Eve Jacobs Carnahan, Erica Garfin, Mark Provost, Erin Aguayo, Tom Aloisi

2. others present: Hannah, Americorps Vista; Cory Line, DPW Project Manager; Tom McArdle, DPW Director

III. Tom McArdle discussed pedestrian topics

1. Explained Complete Streets--Promoted by AARP and VT Health Department, CS compels public agencies VTRANS and Public Works to consider streets for all users and modes of travel under project alterations and new resurfacing projects.

2. Discussion of National Life paving project--DPW would rather not use rumble strips to delineate bike/ped lanes, as gouging pavement introduces a way for water damage to affect the road surface

--main challenge for ped lane is the inclusion of 20 parallel parking spaces on a downhill curve next to the ped lane

3. Sidewalk construction contract--the city will be doing spot repairs on sidewalks this summer, especially on State St.

--the city has changed its concrete specification for sidewalks to a more durable mix, and has added a warranty clause after a failed paving project at the top of E. State St. by the college green and in front of the Capitol

--discussion of the green strip in front of the Capitol. It has a historic designation, and as such cannot be easily changed. Curator would rather improve the green strip than remove it.

4. Rialto Bridge Project--Rialto is complicated. Cannot discuss schedule until the bridge is accepted into the Rehabilitation and Reconsruction program. VTRANS wants bridge projects that qualify with few constraints and environmental impacts, and that are easy to retrofit with pre-fab pieces. This is not one of those projects.

5. VTRANS and Crosswalk Enhancement Grant--Will extend the sidewalk on Elm and Northfield, and on Towne Hill at Grandview. Will address wetland encroachment on Towne Hill.

--In 2015, 11 mid-block, unprotected crosswalks will be upgraded, receiving signage and accessibility ramps

6. Sidewalk Inventory discussion--conducting GIS mapping, mainly to ensure ADA compliance. Discussion of concrete vs. asphalt paving.

IV. Pedestrian Committee members who are able are requested to attend the July 8 City Council meeting for the presentation of the Montpelier in Motion plan.

V. Walk Friendly designation

1. We will call UNC to request a phone conference in August to discuss the results of our application and develop a plan to address priorities as identified during the conversation

2. We will set up a sub-committee of people who want to focus on the designation

3. Tom recommends using the UNC advice to put together a bike-ped grant

VI. Transportation Committee Appointees

1. Mark and Harris will be regular members, John Snell will be an alternate

VII. Chairperson--A unanimous vote of present members (second Tom Aloisi) elected Eve Jacobs Carnahan as the new Montpelier Pedestrian Committee Chair.

Next meeting is July 28.

Adjourn