

Draft Minutes

Downtown Plan Implementation Committee

September 6, 2018

Town Hall Room 201 9:00 AM

Note: These are “action minutes” of the meeting as previously agreed to by the DPIC. The entire meeting was recorded and can be viewed on the Town’s website.

DPIC Attendance: Dewey Loselle (Chairperson), Jessica Newshel, Pippa Bell Ader, Randy Herbetson, David Lapping, Lois Schine, Jennifer Fava, Mary Young, Alicia Mozian, Craig Schiavone, Peter Ratkiewich, Melissa Kane, Foti Koskinas, Matthew Mandell, Ken Bernhard

DPIC Unavailable: Steve Desloge, Steve Smith, Gary Conrad, Steve Smith, Tony Riggio

June meeting minutes were approved.

1. Project Updates/Status

- a. P10 - Parker Harding Short Term Improvements (Compactor etc.). Started laying conduit now - should take about three weeks to complete.
- b. P5 - Restore and Revitalize Elm Street. Rapidly completing Elm Street lot. Meeting with utility companies this week. Utilities will be in place this year, but will likely run out of time to do sidewalk and will complete that by Spring. During a discussion about EV chargers at lots, Pete said that we need to develop a town-wide policy for chargers. This will be discussed at Green Task Force meeting.
- c. New motion to recommend to the traffic authority the “naming” of the new Elm Street lot. Morley Boyd made a suggestion to name the lot after Sigrid Schultz, a pioneering journalist during World War II who lived in Westport at that location. Mary made a motion to recommend to the traffic authority that the new Elm Street lot be named the “Sigrid Schultz Lot”, with a caveat that all protocol be followed as per the Town ordinance. The motion passed.
- d. M5 – Improve Wayfinding System 2.0. New contract needs to go to Town’s attorney. Dewey made a motion that the contract move forward to the Board of Selectman for approval. The motion passed.
- e. PK2 – Avery Baldwin lot co-management. New CT State legislation regarding taxes on leased property to municipalities changed the terms of the agreement. It has been restructured and will hopefully be approved soon.
- f. M1/M2 - Improve Pedestrian Safety @ Post Road crossings and vehicular safety through Signal Modifications. Funding was approved and there was recently a

kick off meeting to start the project. The study is named the “Main to Train Study.” Consultant is NV5 and funding comes mostly from WestCOG. Study will be from East Main Street through Downtown through Riverside all the way down to the train station. Goal is to have more effective movement by both cars and pedestrians in this area. Next meeting to discuss the study is October 1st.

- g. Foti brought up the paid parking issue. The Police Department hears about the issue of 2-hr parking limit often and paid parking might be a way to help. Spaces are being taken up long term by employees who move their cars during the day. Randy suggested that we poll the public to ask about paid parking. Dewey thinks we need a dedicated meeting to discuss the big issue of paid parking. Motion to create a working group to discuss all parking issues (meters, design, construction detours). Mission of the committee: To provide advisement for the design of the Baldwin and Parker Harding lots; to obtain public opinion on the paid parking; to discuss electric vehicle chargers; to help recommend new traffic flows during lot construction; to handle communication about parking to interested parties. Motion passed and Dewey will work to create the committee.
- h. P1 – Implement Main Street Streetscape Improvements. Dewey trying to get HDC and ARB to become members of the working group. Working group will be meeting to discuss lighting, benches, bike racks, etc. Meeting needs to be scheduled.

The next meeting will be held on November 1, 2018 at 9 am.

Meeting adjourned 10:11 am.

Recorded by Jessica Newshel
Downtown Planning Implementation Committee

