

Westport Commission on People with Disabilities
SPECIAL MEETING- Public Meeting - MINUTES
Tuesday October 1st, 2019 - 8:00pm -Town Hall Rm210

Attendance: Jim Ross, Tom Holleman, Stacie Curran, Marina Derman. Diane Johnson,
Present from Human Services: Elaine Daignault

8:00pm - Call to order

Myrtle Avenue - proposed Sidewalk & Intersection Improvements

Plan is to repave entire area when work is complete

Presentation - Narrative given by Mr. Peter Ratkiewich, Department of Pubic Works

* Listed all the Governing Boards & Bodies he has presented to, then 8-24 request, more boards, and now presenting to Commission on People with Disabilities.

Peter will see too it that every part of this project is ADA compliant

Member of the audience asked if he would consider adding bike lanes.

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Mr. Morley Boyd - Alternate alterations presentation - presented by Mr. Boyd, acting on behalf of the Violet Lane Association.

Ms. Diedre O'Farrelly - architect and member of the Property Committee for Christ & Holy Trinity Church - standing by Mr. Boyd's proposal, and is additionally concerned with the aesthetics of the proposed changes by Mr. Ratkiewich. Feels it will create more of an Urban Look and lose the historic look of the Church and mature tree in center island between Myrtle lane & Church lane. Additional cancer id'd for the care and maintenance of the 70 year old tree.

Ms. Lauren Solloff - RTM member, District 9, Hopes we approve draft of Elaine's letter - she supports the project.

Jennifer Johnson - She is in support of the plan presented by Peter R. and hopes we support the plan.

Mr. Dick Lowenstein - Wants to make a recommendation about better pedestrian walkway access, to get to the Library. Doesn't like the four way, confusing interaction now,

Ms. Jennifer Johnson, commented it is also a State issue, they know about it, and are doing a revised plan now = Pete is also working on this.

Wendy Crother - wants to improve Town Parks - and looks at "People Spaces" - where they observe what people do naturally, in their patterns, and then formal plans are drawn from that behavior.

Pete R - returned comments - indicating what the two crosswalks that Mr. Boyd is suggesting do not make sense from a safety standpoint: One goes into the back of parked cars, the other is too close to Post Road, not enough clear line of sight to safely stop. Additionally, the Join Committee is requiring that a landscape architect be used for the two islands affected.

Discussion - (Amongst Commission members)

Jim Ross:

Motion to support Plan presented by Pete Ratkiewich

Tom H - 1st

Marina - 2nd

All in favor

Motion: Writing letter in support of the plan. (Elaine D - reads letter into record - See attached)

Diane - 1st

Stacie - 2nd

All in favor

Meeting Adjourned - 9:45pm