

MINUTES - 8/28/13

Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee Sunderland, Vt.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Marie Litowinsky, Matt Vernon, Scott York, Colleen York (Mike Healy and Scott McGrath were unable to attend but expressed desire to be on the committee. Committee members agreed that Marie will be the COMMITTEE chairperson.

COMMITTEE members reviewed the map of Sunderland provided by Jim Sullivan. According to Marc Johnson Sunderland right of way is 49.6 feet, rural roads are typically 30 feet wide so it was determined widening the Sunderland Hill Road to provide for shoulders would not interfere with any private right of ways.

The members discussed that the goal should be to provide connections from the school to the town hall but the long range plan would be to connect from the covered bridge to route 7A businesses. Based on the feasibility study and costs the plan may be to do the widening in phases with school to town hall being the initial phase.

Discussion ensued about how to determine the connecting phases, based on the # of kids in household or the density of the neighborhood .

Marie will write to select board requesting that the COMMITTEE presents the request to have the town do a feasibility study as the starting point. This would entail the town providing 10% of the cost. There was a brief discussion about private fund raising if select board did not approve the feasibility study but that was tabled along with how to get the word out following the select board meeting. Marie also reported that she had explored if the town of Manchester was pursuing a similar project and learned that they were not. The committee talked about long term goals of connecting the two towns. It was decided that those are areas for future discussion.

Meeting ended with committee agreeing that Marie would write letter asking for committee to meet with select board on Sept. 16 to request a feasibility study. Committee members will present that the goal would be to widen Sunderland Hill Rd. and connect the school to the town hall as the initial phase. Committee will schedule another meeting following the Sept. 16 meeting with the select board.

Colleen York