



The Town of Fenwick Island

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PEDESTRIAN SAFETY COMMITTEE APRIL 9, 2019 AT 9:30 AM

MINUTES

In Attendance

Vicki Carmean, Gardner Bunting, Gene Langan, Richard Mais, Terry Tieman, Bill Weistling, Colleen Wilson

Absent

Tim Collins, Kimberly Flynn, Julie Lee, Bernie Merritt, Scott Mumford, Lauren Weaver

Vicki called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Bill, seconded by Colleen, to accept the minutes of the September 11, 2018 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

Vicki presented the DelDOT Feasibility Study, noting that the location map was not accurate since it did not include businesses south of Route 54 (Fishers Popcorn, Bahama Mama's, etc.).

Opposition has been received from some residents in regards to sidewalks being installed north of James Street. As stated previously from DelDOT, if there is any opposition they would not waste our tax dollars to argue about taking away someone's right-of-way.

John Rieley from the Sussex County Council attended a special meeting of the Town Council yesterday, where a tour of the Town was also conducted.

Vicki recently attended a meeting where another need for sidewalks was discussed: for ADA compliance. While only 12% of Delawareans have a disability, 66% of those over 65 years old have a disability.

A traffic survey was conducted that showed on an average 12,878 vehicles ride through Town daily. Gardner noted that this survey was not conducted during the summer, where he feels on an average 100,000 cars go through Town daily.

The cost estimate provided from DelDOT for the project is approximately \$10,000,000. With the Town paying 80%, we still do not have the funds available to complete the project. Bill noted that in the revised quote received, which included only areas within Town limits (8 blocks, from Atlantic Street to James Street), the north bound side alone would cost \$3,250,000, or \$406,000 per block.

Terry is currently confirming with the Bank of Ocean City what the cost was when they installed their sidewalk. When she spoke to Reid, he thought the cost was approximately \$40,000-\$50,000 for 1 block. Bill added that he received an estimate of \$20,000 per block by Kercher Engineering.

Gene suggested to talk to DelDOT to see if the Town can take over the project, then contact Kercher Engineering for a cost estimate. Terry added that for funding, the Town can apply for a grant, do a bond bill, and also obtain support from the Community Transportation Funds. An environmental study would be needed first. Richard agreed that with the Town taking over the project it would be less costly, and hopes that once the project begins the State would contribute to the project. Vicki commented that she gave a copy of the report to Council Member Rieley as well as to Senator Hocker and Representative Gray, and she knows that all three would be willing to help as well.

Terry stated that she would contact Maria at DelDOT to let her know that the Town would like to take over the project, then would obtain a 3-block estimate cost from Kercher Engineering. Bill suggested doing the easiest 3 blocks first, which Vicki replied that she would like for Kercher Engineering to recommend the first 3 blocks.

A motion was made by Gardner, seconded by Richard, to proceed with the plans on contacting DelDOT and Kercher Engineering. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled after information is received back from DelDOT.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Richard to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 10:12 AM.