



Scott D. Jackson
Mayor

TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Hamden Government Center
2750 Dixwell Ave
Hamden, CT 06518
Tel: (203) 287-7100
Fax: (203) 287-7101

FARMINGTON CANAL COMMISSION

Agenda: The Farmington Canal Commission, Town of Hamden will hold a Regular Meeting and annual picnic at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 16, 2014 at the Veterans's Memorial Building, Brooksvale Park.

Commissioners in Attendance: David Schaefer, Richard Weiner, Bill Horowitz, Mike Johnson, Malachi Blandon, Johanna Becker

Others in Attendance: Jack Becker, Joyce Blandon, Assistant Town Planner Dan Kops, Commission Clerk Gerry Tobin

1. Call to Order

Mr. Schaefer called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. and motioned to complement everyone for bringing delicious food. All agreed.

2. Review Minutes of June 3, 2014

Ms. Becker made a motion to approve the minutes of June 3, 2014. Mr. Horowitz seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Mr. Kops Report

Mr. Kops reported that he has identified the \$40,000 in LoCIP funds that he has been trying to identify for the last couple of years. These funds are now available to spend and we will use the money to do the Sherman Avenue drainage project. He will be getting that underway in the next few weeks. A catch basin will be designed to catch water coming down the slope.

Mr. Kops also reported that he requested and received \$100,000 in capital funds which we will use for repairs on the trail. He will probably walk the trail with Julie Smith and Bob Britain. Mr. Schaefer will join them if lets them know when. Capital funds are different than maintenance funds. We can repave, shore up where stone dust needs replacing, etc. with these funds.

Mr. Horowitz said CONNDOT trail meeting in Cheshire someone said they will be repaving the Cheshire trail. Their trail is about 22 years old.

Mr. Kops said one way to approach trail repairs would be to get quotes based on what we have to spend. Concerns are paving, eroding stone dust, and how much from point A to point B can you do for the dollar amount.

Ms. Larson said the CERT Team has a six passenger golf cart that is stored at the library, that might be used to view the trail. Mr. Schaefer would be interested in finding out how to get rid of the roots, perhaps cutting them and pulling them out.

Mr. Kops said the bench for former superintendent Fran Robinowitz which we will be placed at one of the recommended sites, but will have no relation to the schools. Cliff Cronin, whose girlfriend ran on the trail and died in a car accident, wants to donate a bench in her memory. He wants it near the power lines because she worked for the UI Company and was instrumental in the powerline project. Mr. Kops said the cost for the benches delivered with the plaque is approximately \$1,500 for the one with the back and approximately \$1,400 for the one without the back.

Mr. Kops reported that Cahill Communications asked about doing advertising along the trail and we told them no. Apparently other towns had the same response. Mr. Schaefer mentioned that he heard a radio ad about some paint that captures light during the day and lights up at night. One of the cautions was be careful because someone will be doing advertising on roads with that paint. Courts have said you can't discriminate against advertisers. If you allow anyone to advertise, you must allow everyone, and told the story about the Ku Klux Klan.

There was discussion on the missing keys to the information boxes. Mr. Blandon will cut the locks off and Mr. Schaefer will replace them, probably with combination type locks. The commission would like to post current information.

3. Phase I Update (Mt. Sanford Road to Todd Street)

Mr. Schaefer mentioned that the Mt. Sanford Road crossing does not have a "stop at crosswalk sign."

4. Phase IIA Update (Todd Street to Hamden Hills Drive)

A question came up about putting a bench on the land near People's Bank. Mr. Kops said we will be able to put a bench there once the land has been transferred to the Town. That has not happened to date.

At Todd Street two bollards are missing. Mr. Schaefer said in southern Hamden the bollards are lower and don't interfere with bicycle handlebars. We need to make Public Works aware that the lower ones are safer and if they need to do replacements, they should use the lower ones. When bollards are removed, the screws and metal are left in place. Perhaps they should be painted yellow like the areas where roots broke through the pavement, to they will be more visible to trail users.

Mr. Schaefer mentioned that we painted over graffiti at Hamden Hills Drive six months ago, and it has stayed clean, but we have work to do at Sherman Avenue.

5. Phase IIB Update (Hamden Hills Drive to Connolly Parkway)

Mr. Schaefer said the metal bridge at Sanford Street and the wooden fence need painting. If we decide to do more painting, he will ask Mr. Kops to request the paint.

6. Phase III Update (Connolly Parkway to New Haven Line)

7. New Business

Mr. Schaefer had a suggestion for a fall project. If he went out and identified each of the posts with information signs on them, would each member of the commission find out the information that is on the sign. They have all become unreadable. We would like to replace them with something with larger print and shorter information. The information was provided by Fuss and O'Neil, who included the information in their bid.

Ms. Becker checked out the possible placement of a bench at #28 on the map, near the bend in Putnam Avenue. She said there is a bench there, but she felt there is room in that area for another bench. She will add the location to the map and also add it to Mr. Kops' map.

It was suggested that a bench be added at Todd Street north of the parking lot near the information board.

8. Old Business

9. Adjournment

Mr. Weiner made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Blandon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Clerk of the Commission