

ROBERT FROST / OLD STAGE COACH SCENIC BYWAY

Stevens Memorial Hall
Chester, NH
March 16, 2015, 7:00 PM

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Welcome/Introductions

Chair Elizabeth Robidoux opened the meeting at 7:06 pm. Members in attendance were:

Byway Committee Members

Elizabeth Robidoux (Auburn)
Stoney Worster (Auburn)
Jean Methot (Chester)
Rick Holmes (Derry)
George Sioras (Derry)

Rob Morris (Hampstead)
Judy Glen (Molly Reid DAR)
Julie Pike (Molly Reid DAR)
Adam Hlasny (SNHPC)
Scott Bogle (RPC)

2. Review of Minutes – December 15, 2014

Motion by Jean Methot to approve the minutes of December 15, 2014; seconded by Stoney Worster. George Sioras abstains.

3. Election of Officers for 2015

Motion by Stoney Worster to continue the 2014 slate of officers into 2015; seconded by George Sioras. Byway officers are as follows: Chair- Elizabeth Robidoux, Vice-Chair- Jean Methot, Secretary- Adam Hlasny.

4. Old Business

Scott distributed the final draft corridor management plan, summarizing changes made since December. The group suggested some changes to the draft, including the following:

- Insert Chester Town Pound into Resource Inventory
- Delete public restrooms from Longmeadow Church entry
- Correct picture of Matthew Thornton House
- Insert picture of Danforth Circle for Derry Lower Village
- Change all instances of 'Massabesic Lake' to 'Lake Massabesic' for consistency
- Amend member list to show R. Holmes and M. Ives as full Derry members, G. Sioras and D. Gomez as alternates. E. Robidoux represents Auburn on the council.

There was a discussion about the status of Atkinson's membership on the council. Elizabeth sent a second letter to the town, and has received no formal response. It was suggested to wait another year with Atkinson having nominal membership; if there is still no response or desire to serve on the council, amending the bylaws to reflect their exclusion should be considered. The Molly Reid Chapter (DAR) has several members from Atkinson and will suggest byway council involvement to them in the coming months.

5. Marketing

There was continued discussion regarding a potential domain name. Elizabeth said that she had secured www.robertfrostoldstagecoachscenicbyway.com and www.rfoscscenicbyway.com

for two years for \$55. The council agreed that the Robert Frost name should stay in, as that would likely receive more searches than 'Old Stagecoach Byway'. It was decided that, if and when funds become available, www.robertfrostscenticbyway.com and www.oldstagecoachcenticbyway.com should also be secured.

Rob mentioned that Summit Sign needs an approximation of how many signs we need. They will charge \$150 for a setup fee, which entails designing a Robert Frost logo based on information/ideas provided by the council. The overall estimate is \$60-70 per sign. This led into a discussion of funding possibilities, as the council currently has no funding, and no way of spending funds should they become available.

Derry Village Rotary apparently has \$30,000 in grant funds to be distributed, with an application deadline of April 1, 2015. NH Charitable Foundation also has \$5,000 'Express Grants' that could be applied for in addition to any local funding commitments. The possibility of contracting with a 501(c)3 to enable the council to receive funds was also discussed briefly.

6. Next Meeting/Next Steps

- Make corrections to Corridor Management Plan and Resource Inventory Appendix
- Further refine estimates of signage needed per town
- Secure extra website domain name(s) as discussed
- Discuss ways in which the council could apply for funds
- If applicable, apply for funding for web design and/or signage
- **Next meeting scheduled for 6/15/15 @ Old Meeting House, Hampstead**

Meeting stood adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted by Adam Hlasny, SNHPC