

ROBERT FROST / OLD STAGE COACH SCENIC BYWAY

Stevens Memorial Hall, Chester

October 16, 2017

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Welcome/Introductions

Chair Jean Methot opened the meeting at 7:07 pm. Those in attendance included:

Jean Methot (Chester)

Linda Jette (Atkinson)

Mike Torris (Atkinson)

Elizabeth Robidoux (Auburn)

Rob Morris (Hampstead)

Tina Harrington (Hampstead)

Adam Hlasny (SNHPC)

2. Review of Minutes – August 14, 2017

Motion by Elizabeth to approve August minutes, seconded by Linda. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Status Updates

Signage

- All towns present noted that they have received NH DOT approval to install byway signage.
- Linda reported that Atkinson has replaced several existing Old Stagecoach Byway signs with larger ones.
- Rob reported that in Hampstead, the two signs on NH 121 are up, but one on North Salem Road must still be installed.
- Elizabeth said she will contact Auburn Town Administrator Bill Herman and encourage the signs to be installed before the arrival of cold weather.
- Nobody present has yet had issues with vandalism of byway signs.

Website

- Jean noted that before submitting requests to towns for an annual budget line item of \$200 for the website, an official letter from the byway council is needed. He said he would follow up with Scott to produce such a letter.
- Rob reported that Hampstead's funds should be available on January 1, 2018. Elizabeth said that \$200 has been requested from Auburn, and that she will remind George to request it in Derry.
- Adam said that SNHPC will be ready to purchase the domain name and ensure the website goes live as soon as funding is received by the SNHPC Foundation.
- Elizabeth said that Rick Holmes had been asked to modify the introduction from the Corridor Management Plan; this was already sent to Rob and web developer Steve.

- Mike noted that the initial purchase price of a domain name can be very inexpensive. After a brief discussion, Rob suggested “passing the hat” to get the website up and running if town-provided funding hasn’t arrived by the next meeting.
- In terms of photos, Steve has enough from Hampstead, and a fair amount from Auburn and Derry. Linda has sent Steve some photos from Atkinson. Jean had brought Chester photos on a thumb drive with the intent of transferring them to Scott.

4. Other Business

- Adam mentioned the initiation of a Statewide Scenic Byway Marketing Committee. This group is working with the NH Department of Travel & Tourism to update one-page byway profiles on the www.visitnh.gov website. Adam provided examples, encouraging the council to prepare materials for the Frost/Stagecoach Byway, which currently has no profile on the state tourism website. Elizabeth volunteered to take this on, noting that she would send a draft to the group when complete. In addition to a very brief narrative (based on existing CMP verbiage), this profile would likely include a few standout photos and perhaps a simplified byway map.
- Elizabeth noted that she has asked Bill Herman to look for another byway rep from Auburn. She, Stoney, and Paula are extremely busy and/or unable to attend meetings regularly. Jean added that he is also up to his eyeballs with commitments, and would like to solicit another member from his town. In the byway’s history, only once did another member attend from Chester.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the Hampstead Historical Society on **Monday, January 8, 2018.**

Meeting stood adjourned at 7:40 pm

Respectfully submitted by Adam Hlasny, SNHPC