

May 8 2023 Precinct 17 Caucus Meeting Minutes

Location: Redbrook Trailer

Precinct 17 Member Attendees: Bill Licata, Joseph Hutchinson, Kathy Bell, Al Dinardo, Lori Downs, Lorenzo Pizarro, Pamela Hastings, Susan Arenstam, and Alexis Coon

Discussion/presentations

- Meeting minutes approved for April 10 2023.
- Reports:
 - COPC Update and feedback – Joe presented. At last COPC meeting – various versions of proposed charter’s costs were the focus of discussion. Joe suggested at the meeting that that was not the real issue, but rather the town should be having a discussion of town hall’s ability to manage its workload (capacity). If Derek has a 5 year timeline that includes hiring of a communication director, Assistant town manager, and the cost of the master plan (500K), those elements of the proposed Charter will be incurred by the town anyway and are moot with respect to costs implied by the Charter.
- Wareham Rd Traffic Mitigation :
 - Stop signs etc – Joe heard from Sheila that we wouldn’t be getting OCPC help in the immediate future. Sheila is working on getting 25 MPH on Wareham Rd.
 - South Wareham Rd – report by Pam, Alexis, et al. Independent contractors – information not being communicated to drivers.
 - North Wareham Rd in precinct 16. Jane Mauro reported that vehicles are ignoring the “no RedBrook construction vehicles” advisory sign...so not a law. Speed is also an issue on that road.
 - Bill suggests we need a cop for speed enforcement – daily commuters are main offenders. However, no money in town budget for this.
 - Jordan Rd has speed tables and speed is 20 MPH. Why isn’t this the case for Wareham Rd where houses are much closer to the road.
 - Village master plans, zoning, and special permits – request Lee Hartmann to attend a caucus to discuss this topic, What are legal ramifications with respect to town roads?. We may need to hire a civil engineering company for south wareham Rd.
- Caucus revised the list of traffic mitigation needs to be sent to Sheila and James since some have been accomplished.
- Alexis and Bill will generate a survey for traffic safety concerns for entire Wareham Rd to better understand residents’ concerns.
- Scope – need to determine what other precincts are impacted by road traffic in South Plymouth

- Perhaps we should explain problem...then ask town what is within scope that we can have. Already tried this approach.
- Plan of action:
 1. Have Dan and Evan come in first (in 2 weeks).
 2. Pam, Alexis, and Bill to work on a Wareham Rd traffic safety poll.
 3. Invite Lee Hartmann to discuss the master plan and special permits...Pine Hills has a village, so Redbrook could as well (right now we don't have one). Take a couple of years to develop a master plan for Redbrook.
 4. After survey results are in, then Lori, Pam, and Joe go to Select Board (if nothing moves forward).
- Redbrook Design – Ask Dan/Evan for update

New Business

Horse Racing: We now have access to town counsel...investigate the property. What is legal standing for lease? Al asked Kate McKay (town counsel) to investigate the history of this – may be able to challenge that the land use for horse racing. County commission trying to justify themselves. Joe will bring up this topic at COPC.

Future Education Items

- Revenue sources – schedule Kevin
- Water/ecosystem –Eric Cody is no longer willing to discuss water conservation presentation after select board ignored it (presented to board on December 6, 2023). Will look for video of past presentation instead. Joe will call Scott MacMillin to request discussion.
- Water Master Plan – schedule David Gould (marine environment).
- Frank Mand – 6:30 Wed May 17th presentation on aquifer and salt water intrusion.
- Affordable Housing – related to transportation. Town is on hook for a number of affordable housing units. TBD who could present.

Public Comment: none

Adjourned at 8:35.