

Transportation Committee Minutes July 14, 2003 Meeting

Attending: Don Jones, Lois Kwantz, Marguerite Rafter, Sean Rafter
Absent: Seaver Leslie

Don Jones called the meeting to order. The first order of business was to elect a chairman and secretary. Sean moved that Don Jones be elected chairman; Lois seconded; the vote was unanimous. Marguerite moved that Lois be elected secretary; Sean seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Don then presented a packet of information to update us on the various issues that the former transportation committee had dealt with over the last couple of years. We briefly reviewed the “guiding principles for access management” on Routes 1 and 27, which the former transportation committee had voted to support and which Paul Mrozinski (former transportation committee chairman) had presented to the Board of Selectmen through David Kinney for review and consideration. No action was taken by the selectmen. It had also been recommended that these principles should become a part of the transportation piece of the comprehensive plan. We discussed recommending these principles to Larry Cilley and the current comprehensive plan committee.

Don next gave an update on our “standing” with MDOT and the new commissioner, David Cole. Larry Cilley, Andrew Gilmore and the board of selectmen are attempting to enter a new phase of communication and working together in order to solve some of the transportation problems, particularly around Route 1. MDOT is still committed to the idea of an intown railway station and has requested that the Stafford group and the out-of-town railway station-siting group remain together for the intown phase.

We next discussed the make-up and purpose of the Gateway 1 efforts. This study will involve twenty-one towns along Route 1 from Brunswick to Prospect. Each town has been asked to endorse the goals and participate in the study. The Wiscasset selectmen agreed to the goals but stipulated that their participation did not constitute an endorsement of any bypass route nor did they relinquish any local control to the Gateway 1 committee.

Don reported that Phil Simpson, chair of the comprehensive plan committee, at the request of Larry Cilley, has gotten a group together (currently referred to as the ad hoc by-pass committee) to try to plot another bypass route. The hope is to plan a route that would gain acceptance by a majority of the townspeople of Wiscasset and which would then be sanctioned by the board of selectmen as the official position of the Town of Wiscasset regarding an acceptable bypass route.

Don reported that the transportation committee has been asked to work on the Transportation chapter of the Wiscasset Comprehensive plan and that he and Marguerite, as members of the comp planning committee, will serve as liasons between the two committees. Transportation issues are scheduled to come up for discussion by the

comprehensive planning committee on August 18.

We agreed to schedule the next meeting for Monday, August 4, 2003 at 7:15 PM. Our hope is to prepare a report for the comprehensive plan committee to work with as they discuss transportation issues. Don asked us to do the following homework:

- 1) to review the 1989 comprehensive plan to see what transportation recommendations were a part of that report;
- 2) to see what has actually been accomplished;
- 3) to determine what needs to move forward into our new comprehensive plan;
- 4) and, to identify new issues and/or problems that need to be dealt with.

Submitted by,

Lois Kwantz, Secretary