

Camden Rockport Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathways Committee
Camden Opera House, Minutes
Jan 19, 2012
7:00 pm

Present: Geoff Scott (minutes), Richard Stetson, John Anders, Anita Brosius-Scott, Helen Shaw, Ellen Simmons, Leni Gronros, Geoff Parker (later)

Guests: Tom Ford, Bob Peabody

- Minutes – October and December Minutes approved as written. There was no Nov meeting.
- Camden Hills State Park – John Anders – beyond constructing capacity for hiking/bikers at Ragged Mtn. John's building on relationship with Bill Elliot to discuss projects for mtn biking possibilities for summer 2012. Perhaps do some blow down and clean up some existing trails. Currently Bill is not interested in any support/help.
- Rockport – Inner Harbor Walk - Bob Peabody and Tom Ford presented. Began by circulating a map of a proposed alignment of a Rockport Harbor Walk. Reviewed parking sites, access points, bathrooms. Want to private signage, mark the road, several kiosks with maps, would like support from the committee, and in addition permission to use funds on general ledger (\$15K) designated as pathways funds. Understanding is this was left over from Union St Pathway construction. Would like to designate some of those funds for this project. Several issues – especially with the steps/stairs area under the bridge near Harbor Park.. Maybe Committee would consider \$8-\$10K? Create budget for entire amount of project and then try to raise some money. Would work on engineering first. Signage, about \$300/sign, develop a stencil that would be re-stenciled each spring on road, and one or two kiosks. Hope is to have most or all of it in place by end of summer 2012. Question – any other physical structure change other than the Cramer steps? Answer - No. Question: What about the High sidewalk on Pascal? Answer: Cost to high: \$150K and it's already part of the downtown TIF district. Not asking to add any infrastructure or facilities; there's minimal traffic where there are no sidewalks, outer Mechanic and Sea Street – both low volume traffic areas. One of the goals is to bring them under the bridge. Question – at the area around Harkness, does it loop back? Answer – No, Harkness is an end point. Question – will alternate routes be designated on the map? Answer - No. But the map will show all the roads. Question – signage, any educational signage? Answer - Yes, already have 12 historical signs on the route. Also are considering putting chips for accessing more data along the route. Question – concern – how does this align with Master Plan? Answer - Fits right into Rockport Comp Plan according to Bob. Important to consider in context of Master Plan but the Plan is a guide. Want to avoid signage in front of people's houses. Will use a logo for signage – like Andre. Costs – no hard numbers but \$10-\$12K for the stairs; signs \$300 per, or 4 signs, plus kiosk. Stencil – around \$400 (\$1600). Plus cleaning up Harkness Brook. Clean that up – consistent with current stewardship. Question – What's the genesis of the project? Answer – Bob attended various meetings and the topic has come up

repeatedly. Bob pulled his staff together to brainstorm/discuss. Walk is approx 3.5 miles. Input to encourage advertising/including bicyclists as well. Idea of pathways is to make connections.

- Committee Discussion – could get someone in to do a really good job on the stairway. Maybe do it in rock and do better landscaping. Is this a priority with all the other projects we’re considering? Perhaps a matching grant – find funding from some other account? Push for PR on the project – and use to raise public knowledge for Pathways Master Plan. Maybe some of the funds to clean up the Union St. Perhaps submit as part of a Rotary grant proposal. So press is important – people need to know about Committee’s work/support. Get PR going – volunteer to do the stencil or something. Get a grant oppty.
- Helen- motion - \$2000 for signs/kiosks/stenciling – and will provide assistance for grant writing for redoing the stairs and landscaping/erosion control. Leni – seconds. Unanimous. Pathways would like to continue to be involved in the design process. We do care about what this will look like. Discussion of the other Master Plan priorities.

Action – need to get a press release on the grant that Anita got on behalf of Town

Action – Geoff to email Leni the Riverwalk Rotary proposal

Action – Geoff to email Leni a Master Plan

Parks and Rec – 2nd Wed 5:15 – Geoff will continue to be liaison

Switch to 1st Wed for Pathways meeting

Motion: Leni work with Tom on a proposal to approach Rotary for funding the stairs and landscaping and erosion control for the Harborwalk. Unanimous.

Adjourned – 9 pm