

MYSTIC COOPERATIVE TASK GROUP
MEETING SUMMARY
JUNE 17, 2013
B.F. HOXIE FIRE STATION
34 BROADWAY, MYSTIC

I. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Roper at 8:01 a.m.

Those in attendance were Mike Murphy, Rick Norris, Peter Roper, Kristin Clarke (Town of Groton); Keith Sorensen (Mystic Aquarium); Ed Habarek (Town of Stonington), Jerry Olson (Olde Mistick Village), John Kennedy (Mystic Flag Committee), Tricia Walsh (Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce); Ken Navarro (Historic Mystic LLC)

II. DISCUSSION OF MEETING SUMMARY OF APRIL 15, 2013 MEETING

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 15, 2013

Motion made by Kennedy, seconded by Norris, so voted unanimously

III. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Update on Mystic Streetscape Project Phases

Norris reported that state & local closeout paperwork would be completed by June 30, 2013. Groton's Public Works Department would be completing punch list items. Benches were installed last week. Public works was following up on the installation of the historic map board and way-finding sign base.

Kennedy thought that a few holes used for flag display were missing in the curbing. Murphy suggested a plan be put together by the Flag Committee and the Boy Scouts for flag pole locations that could then be implemented.

Murphy discussed that plans have been prepared for Phase II of the Streetscape project but that the town would not get authorization from the state to go out to bid until the fall, which is a change from the original June authorization date.

Walsh asked whether the fence near Chelsea Groton was supposed to be gray since it was green before. Murphy and Norris indicated that the fence was previously silver matching that farther up Route 1. It was the intent for the fence to be more neutral and the gray was the final color decided on by the contractor.

Olsen indicated that the manholes seem to be too low on Route 1. Murphy noted that Route 1 was completed by the state to state standards.

B. Update on Bridge Repair Project

Norris reported that the bridge repair is essentially complete- there are just some "odds and ends" left- some painting and finishing minor work.

C. Central Hall Plans- Update

Murphy began the discussion by explaining that approvals for the project will expire in October unless the property owner either starts construction or appears before the Planning Commission before then. Electrical easements have been approved but have not been filed yet and the public access easement is being finalized.

Walsh asked whether equipment could be on a floating barge because merchants are concerned about heavy equipment in the street/sidewalks and disrupting business. Murphy indicated that it is his understanding that the work will be completed from a barge.

Mr. Navarro arrived after being stuck in traffic and began his presentation. He indicated interest in completing the project as he is a significant stakeholder downtown beyond Central Hall and understands the motivation to “get things moving” and will be submitting Mylars maps in the next 30 days and dealing with the 5 contingencies attached to the site plan approval. The development strategy is essentially unchanged- 7 storefronts, 12 condos above, 4 levels, and public access to riverfront. It is a challenging market because costs are high. He is hoping to pull building permits and begin infrastructure right away.

D. Other

Kennedy updated the task force on the Flag Day ceremony and was happy to report that the weather cooperated just long enough for the ceremony to be completed.

Roper provided information about Bike Share Mystic’s upcoming community bike tours on June 29, 2013.

Habarek provided an update about Stonington- sidewalks are completed along Coogan Blvd; they will take the summer off for paving and begin again in the fall; Planning & Zoning are revamping the Stonington’s peddler ordinance. Habarek also indicated an interest in partnering with Groton to host an economic development event, possibly focusing on entrepreneurship.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:19 a.m. was made by Roper, seconded by Kennedy, so voted unanimously.