

Sunderland Village Center Committee (SVCC) meeting

Minutes of Meeting October 19, 2022

1. In attendance: Lorin Starr, Chair, Christyl Drake-Tremblay, Liz Sillin, Rock Warner and Geoff Kravitz, Town Administrator. Jessica Skibiski, Steve Gowa and Kyle Snow, attended remotely.
2. Meeting called to order 7:05 PM by Lorin.
3. MA DOT Rt 116 sidewalk project. The delineated bike lanes still not painted. Apparently it is hard to find line painters in the current economy.
4. 47/116 Intersection project. It was reported that the transportation coordinator at the Franklin COG, Maureen Mullaney, is deceased, and at present no successor has been named, but current staff are filling in. The origin of the roundabout conversation came up several years ago as a result of accidents at the intersection. DOT is not committed to a roundabout, but it is likely that would be the recommended solution. We have expressed our concern that a roundabout may be a good traffic control solution, but may not be a good fit for the village center. Geoff indicated again that the roundabout is still not on its “current list” and the COG will reiterate to the DOT our concerns. As previously stated, our committee would like a meeting with the Select Board and the community to get more input. Lorin drafted a letter to the Select Board to use ARPA funds to hire a consultant to work on “visioning” for the intersection, to help us solicit responses from the community. We want to consider what will help local businesses, pedestrians, as well as through traffic. The committee voted unanimously to support a \$50,000 request to the Select Board to fund a visioning project to improve the appearance as well as to examine the safety of the Rt 116/Rt 47 intersection.
5. School Street Continue to need to find way to pay the work that needs to be done. MassWorks funding requires 75% plans, and we have 25% plans. Lorin drafted a letter to the Select Board asking that some ARPA funds be allocated to the School Street project. A motion was made by Rock Warner, seconded, and the committee voted unanimously to support a \$75,000 request to the Select Board to fund development of plans for School Street improvements to reach the required 75% plan readiness.

Meeting adjourned 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Sillin