

Minutes  
Farmington Village Center Committee  
September 12, 2019  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
6:00 PM

**Present**

Bruce Charette  
Kevin Ray  
John Renehan  
Betty Coykendall  
Liz Sanford  
Nancy Nickerson  
Ruth Grobe  
Portia Corbett

**Staff**

Rose Ponte  
Kathy Blonski  
Mark DeVoe

**A. Call to Order.**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**B. Public Comment**

Chairman Charette reiterated that there are two opportunities for public comment in the agenda. Ann Mullen asked when the installation of a planting urn in the Route 4/10 island was approved. Chairman Charette explained this will be discussed later in the agenda.

**C. Reading of the Minutes.**

- 1) To approve the June 13, 2019 minutes. **(Attachment A)**  
Upon a motion made and seconded (Renehan/Nickerson) it was unanimously VOTED: to approve the June 13, 2019 minutes.

**D. Update on Parson's Property Acquisition**

The activities completed to date include:

- On May 30, 2019, Special Act SB-1128 amending the prior conveyance of Parson's Property to the Town of Farmington was passed. The amendment calls for the property to be sold in accordance with CGS3-14b rather than by taking the average of two appraisals to determine the purchase price.
- The Town's Brownfield's consultant, Amy Vaillancourt, is working with DOT to obtain records related to the remediation completed by DOT on the property.
- The Town contracted with Calciano, Stern, & Miller to appraise the Parson's property. The property was appraised at \$1,490,000.00.

In order for the committee members to understand the variables and time frames associated with acquiring the Parson's property, Kathy Blonski gave a general presentation outlining the various paths available to acquire the property. Overall there are a number of variables still left unresolved, therefore, this remains a moving document. Staff will schedule a meeting with our legislators to update them on the outstanding issues associated with the purchase of the property and to seek their advice on moving forward.

**E. Update on the Route 4 Triangle Island.**

Winterberry Gardens was contracted to install a brick border around the island on Route 4/10, plant the island on Route 4/10 according to the landscaping plan designed by Ann Mullen, plant yews and mums on the medians on Route 4, install an urn with autumn flowers for the island. Rose Ponte worked with Winterberry Gardens, however, a number of miscommunications occurred with the implementation of the design. Rose is working with Winterberry Gardens to correct the issues. Winterberry Gardens will remove the urn, remove the mums that were not part of Anne Mullen's plan, and replant the vinca that was removed.

**F. Update on the Walking Tour Sub-Committee.**

A draft of the walking tour was presented to the committee. Betty Coykendall will submit information for the Historic House Tour, and the Historical Society will submit information for the Freedom Trail Walking Tour. Staff will continue to revise the information and will work with a graphic designer to finalize the design of the map and walking tour brochure. Staff will work to create an online version once the hardcopy has been finalized.

**G. Update on the status of engineering design and survey of the Sidewalk Plan form the streetscape Master Plan.**

During the July 9<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting, the Town Council approved the Streetscape Improvement Master Plan and established a working group to recommend strategies to the Town Council regarding implementation of the plan. The Town's engineering department is currently surveying the study area, which is expected to be completed by the end of November 2019.

**H. Next Steps.**

Staff will meet with our legislative delegation to seek assistance and advice concerning the Parson's property.

**I. To approve the upcoming meeting schedule.**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2019 at 6:00 PM

**J. Public Comment.**

Jay Tulin, 39 Timberline Drive

Mr. Tulin asked a question regarding resolution of the Parson's purchase and the possibility of legislative action to assist the Town.

**K. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. (Sanford/Grobe)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rose Ponte, Economic Development Director

cc: Committee Members  
Paula Ray, Town Clerk