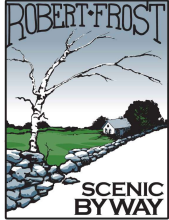


ROBERT FROST / OLD STAGECOACH SCENIC BYWAY



Atkinson Community Center
May 23, 2022

MINUTES



1. **Welcome/Introductions**

Chair Rob Morris opened the meeting at 7:02 pm. The following individuals were in attendance:

Rob Morris, Chair (Hampstead)
Linda Jette (Atkinson)
Richard Pyne (Atkinson)
Deb Mancini (Auburn)
Paula Marzloff (Auburn)

Elizabeth Robidoux (Auburn)
Catherine Baumann (Derry)
George Sioras (Derry)
Scott Bogle (RPC)
Adam Hlasny (SNHPC)

2. **Review of Minutes - November 29, 2021**

Motion by Paula to approve November minutes as presented, seconded by Elizabeth. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Officer Nominations**

George nominated Rob Morris to continue as chair, Elizabeth Robidoux as vice-chair, and Adam Hlasny as secretary. The officers expressed willingness to continue in their positions and were confirmed unanimously.

4. **2015 Corridor Management Plan (CMP) Update**

Traffic Safety

- Regarding the NH 102/NH 121 intersection in Chester, the group wished to express support for preserving/retaining the historic integrity of that downtown area (i.e. traffic light instead of roundabout). However, before finalizing any language, Rob noted that the group should check in with Jean Methot to ensure the byway council's position is in line with that of the town.
- The Hampstead Four Corners intersection was discussed briefly as another dangerous one. It was noted that the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) could be a potential source of funding for improvements at that location.
- The NH 121/ NH 111 intersection in Hampstead has been improved and can be removed from the CMP.

Resource Protection

- Rob noted that there are many scenic vistas (i.e Atkinson's "green tunnel") along the byway that deserve protection. He suggested an inventory be taken to better document them for the CMP.

- A second step would be brainstorming how to protect them, which might include familiarizing town planning boards with the inventory, as well as with the byway's CMP in general.
- Elizabeth mentioned the possibility of looking at historic postcards to determine what vistas used to look like, and potentially researching grants to help with restoring these views.

Goals and Strategies

- Adam pointed out that the General John Stark Byway Council, given its struggles with membership, recently simplified its goals and strategies section to one page. While there is not necessarily a need to follow that approach, examining the 2015 strategies might result in some streamlining.
- A positive aspect to having many ambitious strategies could be the ability to reference them in a forthcoming grant application.
- While there was resistance to promoting the byway on social media in the past, it might be worth revisiting the benefits of starting a Facebook, Instagram, or Pinterest page - even if not updated frequently.

5. Other Business

Rob, Elizabeth, and George spoke enthusiastically about the May 18-19 Byway Leader Training put on by the National Scenic Byway Foundation and hosted by the Woodstock Inn Brewery. Key takeaways included:

- "The sky's the limit" in terms of what can be done on a byway. If there is a will to research and pursue grant funding, a wide variety of projects can be accomplished.
- Examples include removal of vegetation at the Auburn dam, installing a pull-off or kiosk, or even a kayak rental facility in collaboration with Manchester Water Works.
- Partnerships are key, especially with local DMOs (i.e. Chambers of Commerce), banks, Scouts, and other local businesses.
- Elizabeth said that she had many other notes that she would type up and share with the group.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, August 29, 2022**, at an Auburn location TBD.

Motion by Elizabeth to adjourn, seconded by George. Meeting stood adjourned at 8:26 pm.