Minutes

Eatontown Complete Streets Advisory Committee (ECSAC)

Date | time 26 October 2020 from 6:30 PM to 8:13 PM | Meeting called to order by Candace Faust

Location: Borough Hall

# Attendance

**Present**: Candace Faust (chair), Janice Grasso, Joe Olsavsky (council rep), Barbara Stark, Kevin Halvorsen, Pam Faccone, Colleen Burnett (guest), Steve Fratini (secretary),

**Not Present**: Virginia East, Bob English, Tom Fary

# Approval of Minutes

Minutes from October 9, 2020 were approved by the team.

# Agenda

* Roll call
* Approval of minutes October 9th meeting
* Editing session concerning possible grant from Transportation Alternative Set Aside Program
* AOB
  + None

# Discussion

In what follows, “the team” refers to those present at the meeting from the Complete Streets Advisory Committee.

* Emails prior to meeting related to Transportation Alternative Set Aside Program
  + [Candace, 19Oct2020]
    - Areas we discussed for grant: finishing last two grants: connection Wampum to Wolcott and ADA sidewalks in Wampum, Downtown revitalization (sidewalk, benches, bollards, trees, bus stop etc.), bike path/plantings/one way down Throckmorton, bike boulevard stamps and signage down Byrnes Lane leading into Arboretum.
  + [Steve, 20Oct2020]
    - If we do the crossing of Broad St. at Cliffwood Ave., we get the advantage of (1) a more direct and safer crossing, and (2) a cross that is right next to Voyagers' school and very close to the Harbor School. This fits with the requirement of connectivity to schools. We could mention that students at both schools are provided with safe access to Wampum Park Lake / Wolcott Park, and to the Arboretum.
  + [Steve, 20Oct2020]
    - The Eatontown Greenway plan (2019) is a report that was prepared as part of the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program, with financing by the Federal Transit Administration and the Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The Eatontown Greenway Plan has the goal of providing safe pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between several Eatontown parks (from Wolcott Park to Wampum Lake Park to the F.Bliss Price Arboretum and Wildlife Sanctuary). Connectivity related improvements within Wampum Lake Park and between Wolcott Park have already started, and are being partially supported by an existing grant. Eatontown is applying for a TA Set-Aside grant to continue the project from Wampum Lake Park into the Eatontown center of town and extending to the arboretum. The desired effect of these improvements is to encourage Eatontown residents to partake in walking, running and bicycling along the route between the said parks. The enhanced route and associated improvements (e.g., tree plantings) come in close proximity to several schools (Voyagers’, Harbor and Meadowbrook), several apartment complexes and a senior living residence.
* Discussion of ideas related to Transportation Alternative Set Aside Program
  + Janice noted a useful handbook related to the grant, see <https://www.njdotlocalaidrc.com/perch/resources/Uploads/2020-ta-set-aside-handbook-8-12-20.pdf>
  + Agreed to not include crossing of Broad St. and extension to arboretum in this grant.
  + Pam stated the need to mark-off the various routes along the greenway. Steve added that we could create a brochure and community park.
  + Our grant proposal is focused on the historic district of Eatontown, and two parks (Wampum and Wolcott).
  + Janice noted that sidewalks (4 inches deep) costs $65 per sq. yard. This price was from some work done in the borough last year.
  + Candace read out aloud comments from Virginia, see Attachment 3 for the input from Virginia.
  + Janice mentioned the possible use of solar lights. Several members on the team agreed with was a good idea.
  + Janice provides some written comments after the meeting (basically ideas that she verbally offered during the meeting), see Attachment 1.
  + Candace provide written comment after the meeting (basically ideas that she verbally offered during the meeting), see Attachment 2.
  + Question #1 from grant application:
    - Finish raised crossing at Lewis St.
    - Plantings along the route
    - Signage along the route
    - Pedestrian bridge over the ditch that links Lewis and West St. trail in Wampum Lake Park
    - ADA accessibility in Wampum Lake Park
    - Addressing the connection between two current projects with focus on environmental concerns
    - Revitalizing our downtown by adding an ambience which has until now been absent, e.g., plantings, benches, bollards, street trees, bus stop shelters, solar lights
    - Throckmorton (bike lane, one-way, plantings)
  + Question #2:
    - Recreation areas, community center, downtown shopping and restaurants, library, Fort Monmouth, 2 houses of worship, several schools
    - Facilitate bicycling and walking
    - Improve dirt trail on Wall Street and make for a connection to Wolcott Park from Wampum Lake Park
  + Question #3:
    - The project strengthens the cultural, aesthetic and environment aspects of our community’s transportation system by improving the existing infrastructure.
    - Our plan links vehicular and non-vehicular transportation modes in highly visible area in our historic downtown (including local, county and state).
      * There was some discussion concerning the meaning of traditional and non-traditional modes of transportation.
    - Additional plantings can enhance the environment, e.g., adding pervious surface to borough parking lot and along Throckmorton. Also, removable planters and bollards.
  + Question #4:
    - Safety: enhanced crossing at Lewis St.
    - Safe route between healthy activities (Walcott – Wampum – Community Center)
    - Cleanup of trash around Wampum Lake
    - Safer environment on Throckmorton because of one-way traffic
  + Question #5:
    - Will eventually connect to Eatontown borough recreation plan regarding Fort Monmouth
    - Two bus stops along the route (need to add bus stop shelters)
    - Note the Monmouth County open space plan concerning a trail along the NJ Southern Railroad (see Pages 148-149 in the Monmouth County Open Space Plan 2019, <https://www.co.monmouth.nj.us/documents/132/Open-Space-Plan-2019-Web.pdf>)
  + Question #6:
    - Complete streets (mention that we have a team, ordnance, DOT checklist for zoning and planning boards, side-walk ordinance, and have done community walks)
  + Question #7:
    - Cleaning up trash along Wall St. trail within Wampum Lake Park
    - Rain gardens (they could be small) in municipal parking lot and along Throckmorton
    - Pollination garden (under active plans and funds)

# Action Items

* TBD

# Announcements

None

# Next Meeting

TBD