

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2020
12 pm
Via Zoom

Present: Franny Osman (Chair), Jim Citro, and Paula Walsh

Selectmen Present: Joan Gardner

Absent: Jim Yarin, Luke Evans and Julia Day

Also present: Austin Cyganiewicz (Intergovernmental Representative for the Town of Acton), Claire Siska, invited and Anne Anderson, invited

1. Opening

Chair Franny Osman opened the meeting at 12 p.m.

2. Regular Business

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes from the TAC February 26, 2020 meeting was tabled.
- B. Board of Selectmen Chair and Liaison Joan Gardner updated the committee on the following:
 1. The Board of Selectmen have received Jim Yarin’s resignation from the Transportation Advisory Committee
- C. Citizens Concerns:
 1. Coughlin Street: Letter from Anne Anderson was read concerning the safety concerns on Coughlin Street due to the size of the bike lane. The committee had no specific questions and have agreed the letter should be forwarded to the Town Engineering Office. Motion made by Paula Walsh, Seconded by Jim Citro; vote was unanimous.
 2. Dog Park: Claire Siska, Dog Park Committee Chair, provides a PowerPoint presentation for a dog park proposal for 348 & 352 Main Street adjacent to the proposed Acton Housing Authority development at 362 Main Street. The Board of Health has approved the site for the dog park and a leaching field for the AHA development. In order to qualify for Federal Grants, the Dog Park Committee must have sufficient commitment from the Town for the park. The Town of Acton has committed 10% of the necessary \$25,000 for the upper and lower sites of the project which would include a proposed gazebo and sound diminishing fencing between the park and the AHA development. Concerns for TAC, include ways to accommodate dogs on the vans, including whether to have the animals certified to travel on the vans in advance or possible have specific trips for the dog park. Although the details of any transportation details for the dog park were not agreed to, support for the dog

park project was unanimously agreed to. Franny Osman proposed supporting the project, seconded by Paula Walsh and it was unanimously passed to support the dog park.

3. Kim Robson: voiced concerns that the CAT is not stopping at desirable spots, only at the predestined stops. Austin stated he is supportive of flag stops and will look into it.

3. New/Special Business

- A. Franny Osman provided the following update:

Franny attended two meetings of the Massachusetts DOT. One item that was discussed was the recommendation by the DOT to not paint stripes on roadways not heavily traveled during the day. It was found that the presence of the stripes resulted in faster driver speeds and in cars driving closer to the stripes than they otherwise would. Surprising leading to less safety for riders.

- B. Austin Cyganiewicz updated the Committee on the following:

1. The Town is following operations similar to the MBTA around cleaning protocols and essential routes (3 vans in operation).
2. Cleanliness of the vans- after every trip, drivers wipe down high touch surfaces and possible contacts with vendor approved solutions to sanitize buses.
3. The fixed routes are not running. The Neighborhood Brigade is helping out.
4. Franny Osman, Laura Duscharme (social services department) and Austin Cyganiewicz are working together on a draft for a grant that would supply monies taxis and livery services through Mass Development. Details are being worked out to have a single call center, perhaps through CrossTown Connect.
5. Possible new vendor.

4. Adjournment

At 1:20 p.m., it was moved by Paula Walsh and seconded Franny Osman to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was approved unanimously.