

Schoodic Byway Corridor Committee
01/21/05
Minutes

Attending: Adam Sayer, Peter Drinkwater, Ed Pontbriand, Leslie Harlow, Andrew Sankey,
Roger Barto, Jim Fisher, Don Snoke, Rod Franzius, Ruth Franzius, Bob LaRoche

Slide Show – Jim set up a laptop computer with

Student Interns to assist with Schoodic byway photo project

- Introducing Adam Sayer - Student Intern gotmojo27@hotmail.com
- Camera Specifications – 3 megapixels, large memory card, optical zoom, PC-link software, durable.
- Types of pictures – landscapes, roadway, activities including making a living and recreation
- Working with David Thomas, Junior at Sumner High School
- Leslie Harlow volunteered to work with the students
- Leslie, Peter, Jim will put together a list of tasks, photo concepts, data to accompany photos.
- Jim will create a database for archiving and retrieving photos
 - High resolution image and Thumbnail photo for quick retrieval
 - Description – what you see
 - Name of Photographer
 - Location, Date, Time
 - People appearing in the photo (if their permission will be required for subsequent publication)

Gateway Facility Design

Rod Franzius reporting on Hancock Select board preferences

- Prefer concepts 2 and 3 over concept 1
- Prefer not to have anything that obstructs the visibility of the privy – to reduce opportunities for vandalism and other crimes.

Planting

Andrew Sankey

- bushes catch litter and are hard to clean

Leslie

- forsythia is very pretty
- verbena is also very pretty with berries

Peter

- Some tall trees without low branches - birch? might work
- prefer to have the southeastern part of concept 2 and north-eastern part of concept 3

Other plants of interest

- burning bushes
- Junipers
- Rosa Rigosa

Pet walking area – and pet waste

Ed Pontbriand

- suggest directing pet walkers to use the rail - avoid mess
- Provide the small plastic dog feces pick-up bags near the walking area.

Gateway and Welcome Sign

Bob LaRoche

- can the welcome sign serve the byway and the facility
- MDOT is moving to carry in and carry out

Peter Drinkwater

- Like pavers under the sign - less maintenance
- V - shape sign - granite - Welcome to Schoodic Byway

Andrew Sankey

- prefer the granite concept

Consensus -

- Granite V - granite blocks like the Sullivan pier - wooden sign on top
- Needs to be high enough to see above the cars that are lined up to leave.
- Might be able to put information on the inside of the V for people to walk-to.

Directional signs

Ed Pontbriand

- Need a small directional sign where cars enter
- Put up a green backdrop to encourage people to move through the entrance (this is one spot where less of a view may be advantageous)

Bob LaRoche

- If it goes out to bid , then MDOT can set specifications
- Force bid process may add some local flexibility

Drainage of the water off the parking lot

- footbridge - may be unnecessary
- The spillway concept should work well enough.

Embankment

- Concerned about reports of additional erosion

- Choices include natural systems as well as a low retaining wall with fence.
- prefer to use natural systems for soil retention
- Cedar shrubs, yew trees, etc. may be able to hold the bank.

Maintenance

- MDOT - will mow grass on an ongoing basis, but will not weed gardens
- Perennial shrub beds have a two year establishment period after which they will not do additional maintenance. We might try this strategy in a few places and revert to grass if it doesn't work out. MDOT will not plan annuals.
- Leslie - a local coalition might form to help maintain the site.
 - We don't have water for this site
 - Hancock has a Monument Lot Committee that maintains another parcel.
- Like to have bushes backing up the benches to reduce the impact of cars.
- Shrubs - hold the litter but discourage pet waste.

Privy

- Two structure outhouse facility is preferred – “men’s” and “women’s”
 - Might consider a solar power night light with motion detector for the out house. Would need to be secured from theft and vandalism. (e.g. solar panel built into roof or even located remotely.)
 - Need to investigate where there is adequate space to bury to tanks, or come up with a design that allows a shared tank.
 - Location – western side of facility, away from the view shed.
- Need to factor in the risk of hitting contaminated soil whenever a hole is dug

Leslie moves adoption of the hybrid of concepts 2 and 3 – as outlined by Peter. Passed.

Frenchman Bay Overlook – (Dunbar’s)

Jim discussed his conversation with Harry Russel about the proposed scenic turnout. Harry supports doing what the town wants with this concept, but expressed a preference for the parallel parking design.

The Committee concluded that the parallel parking design will work if the parking lot can be extended toward Dunbar’s store to permit two to three additional cars.

Use a combination of boulders, benches and plants to delineate the drop off in slope

One configuration would have two granite benches in the interpretive area, one or two on either side if they fit without significantly widening the project

The embankment needs to be built out to achieve a 3 to 1 slope that can be mowed as needed.

Jim will forward design ideas to Patrick McLean and Bob LaRoche as soon as possible.

Jim will also draft a letter to accompany the draft illustration to be signed by the Sullivan Select Board and sent to Harry Russel and MDOT. MDOT will have their right of way

department work on establishing an easement for this site with the Sullivan Harbor Foundation.

Sponsorship for State Brochure

Bob LaRoche reported that the state will be printing another 10,000 byway brochures for the next season.

Grants

Jim reported that three grant proposals have been submitted to MDOT and are posted to the website:

- Planning and Administration
- Scenic Improvements – Winter Harbor (should have added Sullivan, but I was not able to edit the submitted proposal and the deadline passed).
- Multimodal Planning for Schoodic Region - resubmission

- Stone House - Jim was about $\frac{3}{4}$ through the proposal for the Stone House turnout, but lacking certainty of MDOT plans delayed submission and missed the deadline. The Stone House proposal was discussed at length at the meeting. Bob LaRoche will follow-up with Tod Pelletier, finding out whether a decision has been made about closing Harbor View Road and safety issues with creating a turnout at this location. Jim will complete the proposal as this may be eligible as a project under the special award grant.

- Special award for Maine Scenic Byways
 - Congressman Michaud won a \$1 million earmark for Maine byways
 - Bob LaRoche met with Rangely and Old Canada Road Scenic Byways and needs to meet with the Acadia Byway Committee
 - Need to prioritize bricks-and-mortar projects right away that are ready to build – particularly those that we can coordinate with MDOT construction projects on Route 1 and Route 186. The timing is excellent for Schoodic Byway.
 - Ideas discussed at this mornings meeting include:
 - Purchase land near Long Cove and Preble Cove? Possible. That is a long process and may be difficult.
 - Put wires underground? Possible. Not easy either.
 - Pump house - would require acquisition.
 - Parking for bike path - South Gouldsboro -state has an agreement for some land. Jim subsequently sent email to John Balicki about this idea and is awaiting a response.
 - Restroom facility in Prospect Harbor.
 - Interpretive signage - delays from the contractors
 - Park and Ride in Winter Harbor - near multifamily housing
 - Joint Park Byway Signage
 - Hot-topping and curbing area at Young's: Bruce Slatery (Lawyer in PA) and Chamber Sign Renovation.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM (whew).