

Ad Hoc Committee Meeting – Claremont Amtrak Stop  
September 16<sup>th</sup> 2014  
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Madam Chair Lovett called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Members of the committee present were:

Ward II Councilor Charlene Lovett  
At Large Councilor James Reed  
NH State Rep. Ray Gagnon

Review of minutes from 08/20/14 and 09/03/14

Ms. Lovett made a note that Jan Lambert wanted the wording corrected in the minutes to reflect the following. Change bike to bicycle / and time to labor .Ms. Lovett had made the corrected in the minutes just want to have it on record.

Mr. Gagnon made a motion Mr. Reed second the motion to approve the minutes from both meeting 8/20 and 9/3.

Voice vote: motion carried 3-0

Mr. Gagnon gave an update with speaking to Guy Sanagate on having Planning & Development be more involved with our committee with more communication and closing the gap. Guy thought of having Nancy Merrill Council Committee Staffer should be voted. Guy was going to speak with Nancy Merrill the next day Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> to get her thought on all of this.

Ms. Lovett said they need to be more cohesive to participate. She suggested to let them sit on this for the next week or so then we will do a follow up.

Mr. Gagnon will do a follow up with Nancy Merrill on their participation.

Ms. Lovett mentioned she had a conversation with Nancy Merrill on a public forum with NNERI coming up in November, Miss Lovett will get exact date so we can be a part of this.

Ms. Lovett also made mention of the article sent to us from her on the Portsmouth Mayor urging Gov. Hassan to order rail study. She was surprised to see more of rail transportation being mention more frequently now. She is going to start collecting these articles of such to use as a reference back to for our committee.

Mr. Gagnon stated Portsmouth Rail is very important it could affect Shut down of shipyard and waste. Propane tanker coming in to the River Rd. etc.

Ms. Lovett gave us a update on the Glory Day Festival she had gotten the invited the night before from Mr. Bill Hollister at last minute and forward us the committee the invite, that was held on September 13, 2014 Ms. Lovett and her Husband went to the event on our behalf.

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Ms. Lovett said they meet several different people there offered and extended there help to us in anyway.

People they met.

Mr. Bill Hollister in person after speaking with him on a regular basis. He is the

Mr. Brian Gallagher - CEO operation office head marketing in D.C.

State Rep. of VT

Don Skinner Executive Director of Vermont Action Rail.

She explained Glory Days had an exhibit train converted into a museum for people to tour for free and look at all the different compartments and different set up on this 4-5 cars on this.

She stated this would be nice to have the exhibit on display here in the near future spring/summer perhaps 2015.

Spring- volunteers to clean up and beautify the site.

Give invite Lakes Region, Charlestown, New London surrounding towns.

Mr. Gagnon though that it would be a great excursion with the family at Glory Days in Claremont.

-June would be a thought so not to compete with VT.

-excursion from here to Windsor VT

-Bike race

-Mt. Sunapee and Mt Ascutney

-Tourist from fort #4 in Charlestown NH

Ms. Lovett will speak with John Lambert of this outlining ideas of what this could be.

Rerouting Dec. 2014 it could omit 30 minutes of travel.

Mr. Gagnon made mention took a trip at one point with his Daughter NY City to DC on a Friday which was packed long ride from here.

-Concord to Boston study happening NNERI study.

Ms. Lovett

-Spoke with Chris Parker from Vermonter

-Claremont is one of the least significant 10k to 15 k for passengers.

-Where would we like to see our future ridership amount be in three years?

Mr. Gagnon said the more noise / attraction we can bring to the junction the better.-White River Junction in 2011 Vermont Chamber of Commerce listed them on the top 10 events of the year

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Ms. Lovett was informed that the objective by 2030 from Amtrak is high speed 200-300 mph to get to DC in 3 hours approximately.

She was told more people travel on Amtrak from NY to DC than all Airlines combined.

She spoke with Don Skinner he made mention of doing a free Safety Program in the schools like the fire safety. Amtrak provides for free Rail Safety. It would heighten visibility for our stop in our community.

Mr. Hollister said when we get our signage up to take pictures of it and sent it to him so he can put it up on the website.

Mr. Reed said we should take the pictures with us as a committee next to the signs.

Ms. Lovett said Liz Chapman will be joining us most likely at our next meeting. We will brief her of who we are what our focus is and a brief overview, then we will have round table discussion about transportation thru extending there services by 1 hour (CATS)

Ms. Lovett says we need to take a road trip to these different resorts to get more overview how other community's operate. Sunapee / Ascutney Orange Lake Resort. We need to create a list of Companies to reach out to like Hertz, Enterprise etc. For other means of transportation down at the junction.

Mr. Gagnon said we need to reach out to Mike & Beth Lemieux at the Ice Cream Stand, They have that large field lot location for a huge tent to exhibit Claremont Concord Rail Way.

Ms. Lovett made mention we would do a periodic update to the City Council next update would be October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014 Development Phase which we will be in for a while.

-Top three Goals are

- 1)Public Safety / Passenger Comfort
- 2)Transportation
- 3)Signage

Mr. Reed stated that this Committee will be a Model of Success for State of NH to follow.

Mr. Gagnon says we need to start talking to the communities of Bellow Falls Windsor and White River junction VT. Of creating summer of 2015 Claremont Junction Day or something to that affect.

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Ms. Lovett said we don't want to get to involved with the outer community's yet to have to compete with the high speed stops until the stops have been determined then we can be more involved.

She also stated about Bike event that Mr. Gagnon mentioned, she said she had a great idea for that up the public road in Ascutney her brother did this route to train for Mt. Washington race.

Follow ups to be done:

Mr. Gagnon was going to reach out and speak to Kelly Ayotte and Jeanne Shaheen.

-Going to speak with Dot about the outside of urban compact zone signage placement.

Ms. Lovett Pilate to John Lambert

Motion by Mr. Gagnon seconded by Mr. Reed to Adjourn at 7:10 pm

Voice vote 3-0 Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,  
James P. Reed Jr.