

Hardwick Planning Commission
Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Task Force
November 5, 2019
Hardwick Memorial Building
Minutes

HPC Members Present: Joyce Mandeville; Jim Lewis; Ken Davis; and Dave Gross, Chair

Also Present: Kristen Leahy, Hardwick Zoning Administrator (ZA); and Shari Cornish, Select Board Member

Absent: Diane Grenkow

Chair Dave Gross opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Joyce Mandeville moved to approve agenda as published. Jim Lewis seconded. All members were in favor. Joyce Mandeville moved to approve the October 8, 2019 meeting minutes as written. Jim Lewis seconded. All members were in favor.

Dave and Joyce interviewed the Buffalo Mountain Co-op General Manager and the Manager at the AT&T store. Both entities had concerns about the safety of the downtown area.

AT&T: The store feels that parking in the intersections is dangerous – eliminate the parking in the intersections. A flashing light at crosswalks would be beneficial. No bike parking in the downtown. The AT&T store has no event parking.

Co-Op: Staff is instructed to use across the bridge (8-9 cars). They may explore the feasibility of obtaining a private parking lot. They utilize cones to reserve parking spots for their larger delivery trucks – if they don't the truck will double park in the roadway. A suggestion was made to obtain an electric charging station. Concerned that the crosswalk sign by the swinging bridge is not visible. Favored green paint for the crosswalks and a flashing light sign to identify. They believe that they would have more customers if they had better parking. Parking is always mentioned in member surveys. Not concerned with the parking in the intersection areas. Would like to see better signage at the 14/15 intersection.

Larry Hamel: (Hardwick Inn, etc) He has 15 spots around the inn and even provides off-street parking for his tenants across the street (AT&T etc). Dislikes people parking in inn parking as if it is public parking. Sees parking as a problem for downtown businesses. Deliveries are not a problem for the Inn. Would recommend better signage crosswalks and would not recommend bump-outs (due to concerns with plowing etc). In favor of placing blinking lights at the crosswalks and in favor of the town purchasing property for a parking lot. He recommended better signage regarding the public parking across the swinging bridge. He is against the removal of any parking spots in town. There is no room for a bike lane. He also suggested placing signage and cleaning up the town parking lot next to the Clip Joint.

Dave Gross suggested utilizing a larger map of the area in question and a feedback method such as sticky notes or dots with the general public. Perhaps this could be accomplished at the Town Meeting – in the information area. A citizen share should be created. Dave also recommended speaking to the schools.

The next HPC meeting will be on December 10, 2019.

Jim Lewis made the motion to adjourn at 7:41 pm. Joyce Mandeville seconded. All members were in favor.

~ Respectfully submitted, Kristen Leahy, ZA