

Kelley's Corner Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes - 17 November 2014

These are the meeting minutes from the Kelley's Corner Steering Committee of the Town of Acton, Massachusetts. The meeting took place on 17 November 2014 in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Room at the Public Safety Facility. The meeting was moved from its regular location and time slot due to a conflict with Town Meeting the previous week.

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm by Andy Brockway.

Present: Andrew Brockway, Bonny Nothern, Eric Solomon , J D Head , Larry Kenah, Margaret Busse, Peter Darlow, Rob Bukowski

Not Present:

Planning Department: Kristen Guichard

Other Attendees

The Cecil Group team was represented by:

- Steve Cecil - The Cecil Group - Project Director
- Ken Buckland - The Cecil Group - Project Manager
- Jason DeGray - Greenman-Pederson, Inc - Traffic Engineering

There was one additional visitor.

Meeting Summary

This meeting addressed four subjects.

- Traffic Improvements
- Streetscape and Landscape
- Zoning Tools
- Design Guidelines

The slides that were presented can be found at

<http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-6516>

Meeting Minutes (1)

Minutes from the 8 October 2014 meeting were approved.

Traffic Improvements

- It is important to put Community Way (also known as Noname Road) under town control.

- The current proposal includes traffic signals at both ends of Community Way. These lights would be coordinated with the light at the intersection of Route 27 and Route 111.
- CVS is also interested in a traffic signal at the intersection between Route 111 and Community Way.
- There are no plans to add signals to either ramp between Route 2 and Route 27.
 - There were earlier studies (2000 and 2008) to include a signal at the eastbound ramp but nothing happened with either study. MassDOT is not interested in adding either signal at the current time.
- The civil engineering study will take place between now and the end of the year. Among other things, the survey will identify the boundaries between private and public property. It is possible that some property owners might have made changes (landscaping, etc) on public property.

Streetscape and Landscape

Most of the remainder of the meeting (and most of the remaining slides) looked at lots of details (trees, street furniture, street lights, pavement, roadway markings, and overall landscape character) to get a sense of how the committee is leaning. Two general threads emerged.

- Committee members favor traditional designs rather than contemporary designs for street lights, benches, and similar furnishings.
- All of these details can be used to give Kelley's Corner its own identity.

In response to a question, Steve Cecil indicated that there are no plans to put the various utilities (electric, telephone, cable, etc) underground. The primary reason is cost.

Zoning Tools

In a continuing effort to educate the committee, we learned that there are quite a few zoning tools at our disposal. We need to choose what tools we would like to use at the same time that we look at specific zoning recommendations.

Design Guidelines

Design guidelines are one of the three sets of deliverables of the Kelley's Corner Improvement. They have several purposes (see Slide 35).

- Provide a basis for making decisions about the appropriate treatment of existing and new construction
- Planning tool for property owners and design professionals who seek to work in the district
- Provide more control over structures, facades, landscaping, lighting, sidewalks, signs, and general aesthetics

Guidelines are easier to illustrate and make use of when there is little or no existing construction.

In Closing

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 pm.

These minutes were recorded by Lawrence J Kenah.