

FINAL – Minutes of the Meeting

Old Stage Bridge Committee  
November 12, 2007  
Town Hall  
7:00PM

Present: Steve Volpone, Judy Wilson, Fran Rice, Larry Rice, Mark Thompson, Dick Robinson, Mike Henry, Wayne Barker, Paul Fitzgerald

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Judy Wilson.

Steve Volpone made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 8, 2007 meeting as final. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Official Town Committee Status

Steve Volpone suggested that we select a Vice-Chair in case Judy Wilson is absent. Steve agreed to serve as Vice-Chair.

2. Town of Hampton Update

Judy Wilson reported that Eric Small has requested an official re-assessment from the NH State DOT as to the safety of the bridge as a pedestrian bridge. This report will be shared with the Town of Hampton, and will be forwarded to the towns' common insurance carrier.

Fran Rice reported that the Hurd family is very supportive of our efforts to rehabilitate the bridge.

3. Funding Update

Judy Wilson reported that the Scenic Byways funding for 2007 has not yet been appropriated by the US Congress. In fact, last year's grant recipients have not received their funding. The State's Scenic Byways coordinator now estimates that funding will not be forthcoming until 2008.

4. Construction Ideas

Paul Fitzgerald presented a cost estimate for initial work on the bridge, including removing the existing asphalt, applying new gravel and asphalt coats, and using stamped

and colored concrete to finish the surface. It was agreed that these costs, with the addition of required fencing and guard rail work, will probably result in a “low end” budget of under \$25,000. Dick Robinson will contact local fence companies for estimates.

Higher end ideas were then discussed. Mike Henry showed the committee pre-fabricated wooden bridge structures that are available on the Internet. Dick Robinson is getting plans for a covered bridge, similar to the one in Jackson, NH.

Rice showed photos of a pedestrian bridge in Bedford, Massachusetts that cost \$93,000.

It was agreed:

- once we have the engineering report and approvals, and assuming funding issues are resolved, we will start work in the Spring
- once we decide on what the bridge will look like, we will ask Jack Femery to do an artist’s rendering for publicity and fundraising purposes
- if it is more cost effective, we will leave the bridge at its current width, and use tubes at both ends to prevent vehicular traffic
- we should try to get as much donated labor and local assistance as possible

#### 5. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday, December 10, 2007 at 7:00PM at Town Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM.