

STAR
6/9/2010
Ellsworth City Hall

Minutes

Attending: Jim Fisher, Sam Coplton, Janet Toth, Larie Jordan, Charlie Corliss, Michele Gagnon, John Deleo,
Jef Fitzgerald, Stephanie Clement, Bruce Mattson

Discussion of sites

- Maine Community Foundation
 - Small and narrow lot
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- Irving
 - Small and narrow lot
 - High visibility
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- Merrill Furniture
 - Natural trail head – end of the line for ATVs
 - Sufficient space
 - Proximity to services and markets
 - Requires costly relocation of Blue Seal Feed
 - Remote, but good elevation with open area in front
- JFP
 - Large undeveloped lot
 - Well below RR grade
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- King

Ellsworth Conference Center

- Janet noted that the city is exploring creating of a conference site. 500 seats?
- This project would require more land and parking than the STAR center
- Both projects would have good synergy

Relocation Requirements – Scott Avore

- Governed by Federal Register 49 CFR
- Moving Expenses
 - Fixed payment - up to \$100,000 based on earnings, or
 - Actual moving costs – no limit
 - Direct costs of moving

- Alternative facility
- MaineDOT looks at costs of various options
 - Appraisal and review
 - Relocation time
 - Site cost
 - Relocation costs – title, survey
- Environmental Assessment
 - Consider alternatives
 - Wetland impacts
- Public hearing – elicit additional input on alternatives

Funding

- Transportation
- Recreation

Trail construction

- Delays in conducting the preliminary engineering for Washington Junction to High Street
- Preliminary design will determine cost of this two mile section
- Early estimate of cost = \$1 million

Next Steps

- Michele Beal, Bob Merrill
- Press ahead with the Washington Junction to High Street Trail
 - Thibedeau – is renegotiating
- Draw conclusions about preferred sites
- Contact the owner again, discuss our interest (don't negotiate price)
- Plan a public meeting to discuss the project
 - Decision process
 - General – preferred areas

Update from Charlie Corliss

- Adding to trail through Columbia Falls in the next two weeks
- Hope to have Cherryfield by early July
- Work ongoing in Franklin and Hancock
 - Surface materials are ready on this end
 - Can work on this if there are delays further east
- Vaughn Thibedeau is bankrupt, but work proceeds. The new company will be VTS 3