

UPPER LAMPREY SCENIC BYWAY COUNCIL

ZOOM MEETING SUMMARY

JANUARY 5, 2021

Councilmembers in attendance: Lucy Edwards, Victoria Parmele (Northwood), Dick Boisvert, Torin Judd (Deerfield), Monique Duchesne, Adam Hlasny (SNHPC).

Goals for 2021

Dick said that nailing down the cost of signs and signposts is a high priority. Fundraising can't really begin until a price point is known.* Victoria mentioned the possibility of purchasing signage in stages rather than all at once, in order to keep costs down. Adam noted that the Frost/Stagecoach Byway, with whose council he works, uses SNHPC as a fiscal agent to accept donations.

Various difficulties/obstacles were mentioned, such as new warrant articles in Deerfield and the related hostility toward new expenditures. Towns will be tightening belts during this budget cycle and soliciting funds for byway signs will not be looked upon favorably in this financial climate.

Lucy and Victoria suggested researching potential federal funding for economic development/recovery initiatives, and whether the byway might qualify in some way.

Status Updates

Council Membership

Mike Sheehan, while usually reliable, has missed the last several meetings. At a minimum, there should be two new reps from Candia, and potentially three if Mike is no longer interested. Victoria has contacted Candia resident Tom St. Martin to gauge his interest and that of other townfolk. Adam said that while those in attendance have been reliable, finding alternates from Northwood and Deerfield would be beneficial as well.

Notecards

Torin had procured an estimate from NH Print & Mail in early November. The cost to print 1,000 notecards would be \$304. Those present thought a spring timeframe might be good to start distributing the notecards in local businesses and town buildings. While a funding source is unknown, Victoria suggested that perhaps the group "pass the hat" to ensure the cards get printed in 2021.

Follow-ups

- Reach out to potential new members in all three towns, with emphasis on Candia (all)
- Share byway website login info with Victoria (Adam); Victoria will make some changes/updates as a co-editor
- Check in with North Country Council re: a letter to NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Council, urging them to appoint members and meet again (Adam); Victoria will write this letter after receiving more information from Adam
- Check in with Epsom/Central NH RPC regarding potentially placing a sign in the town, which otherwise isn't part of the byway (Adam)
- Check on the potential for byway funding through alternative means, i.e. through COVID economic development/recovery efforts that have been utilized at Strafford RPC (Adam)
- Distribute a Doodle poll to schedule the byway council's next meeting in March (Adam)

*According to a November 2019 estimate from NH Correctional Industries, the cost of signs/posts are as follows:

The total for 35 signs+posts+arrows is **\$3,433.50**, just under \$100 per full unit.

If the route were to stay as it is currently laid out, the cost per town would be as follows:

- Deerfield (17 signs): **\$1,667.70**
- Candia (11 signs): **\$1,079.10**
- Northwood (7 signs): **\$686.70**