

**BOOTHBAY HARBOR
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
Footbridge Renovation Workshop
September 17, 2020**

In addition to these typed minutes, video recordings of all Selectmen's meetings are available to be viewed at BRCTV and audio recordings are available at the Boothbay Harbor Town Office.

ATTENDING: Michael Tomko - Chair
Tricia Warren – Vice Chair
Ken F-Fitch
Denise Griffin
Wendy Wolf

Julia Latter, Town Manager

Chairman Tomko called the Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Tomko started the workshop by giving a brief history of the footbridge. October of 2016 repairs of faulty timbers had been done and that is when it was discovered more work would need to be done.

Items discussed consisted of:

- Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) Small Harbor Improvement Program (SHIP) Grant;
 - o Grant providing \$250,000
- Barney Baker presentation;
- Municipal Inspection done by Chairman Tomko, Code Enforcement Officer Smith and Public Works Foreman Nicholas Upham;
- Gartley and Dorsky – Third Party Inspection Report;
- Residents opinion on the importance of keeping the existing esthetics and history;
- Definition of restoring while trying to comply with;
 - o Safety
 - o Code – State and Federal
 - o Structural Guidelines for grant
 - o Esthetics
 - o Functionality
 - o Trying to retain historic character
- Abutments at each end of the footbridge.

Robert Faunce gave a brief presentation on key elements needed to keep in mind when looking at footbridge renovation (Sea Level Rise).

Chairman Tomko stated the opinion is that the bridge staying straight is important and next stage would be deciding on height. Some of this will be decided with the help of engineers as well as board input. Overall opinion is that the footbridge needs to be raised just not sure how much.

Public input:

- Concern of weight bearing on pilings;
- Width of footbridge;
- Keeping it simple;
- Maintaining the swing bridge;
 - o Bridge still listed as a swing bridge on the United States Coast Guard chart
 - o Needs to be operational?
- Bridge house access;
- Safety being first priority, but trying to keep bridge as close to what it is now;
- Pedestrian bump-outs;
- Lighting;
- Landing or launch area for kayak's etc.

The goal will be to put together a timeline to have something together before the next annual meeting in May.

Chairman Tomko suggested taking the information that has been presented and going over it at the next meeting, to request engineer reviews and proposals.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.