

Minutes
TOWN OF MARLBORO
REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING
Thursday, August 13, 2020
5pm Zoom Call Online

ATTENDANCE: Present: *In attendance via Zoom, due to COVID-19 precautions:* Jesse Kreitzer, Select Board Chair; Julia von Ranson, Vice Chair; Aaron Betts, Member; Pam Burke, Select Board Assistant; Bob Audette, Member of the Press; David Elliot & Andrew Richardson, Road Crew; Edie Mas, Lissa Harris, Lauren Poster, Ariel Poster, David White, Amy Tudor, Jonathan Podolsky, Lindsay Bailey, members of the public

CALL TO ORDER: Jesse Kreitzer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

Public comment

Andrew Richardson from the Road Crew talked about expanding a little parking area across from the pond to make more room for parking for people who access the trails in the winter time. Amy Tudor read an excerpt of the August 13th article “The Benefit of the Doubt”, posted on Medium.com by Black N Brown at DP. Ariel Poster thanked the members of the Degrees of Freedom team who attended the July 20th Select Board meeting and read an excerpt from the same article. Public comment was extended for 10 minutes. (Kreitzer, Betts) Lissa Harris said she was hoping for more interaction with the Degrees of Freedom team and also read an excerpt of the article. Lindsay Bailey from Black N Brown at DP said she encourages the townspeople to continue to ask Degrees of Freedom for more accountability.

Approval Of Minutes: The minutes from the regular meeting Of 7/23/20 were approved and pay orders were approved and signed. (Kreitzer, von Ranson)

Marlboro College Closure/Democracy Builders Transition

After the special meeting on July 20th, the Select Board compiled all of the questions the public submitted about the Degrees of Freedom program and shared them with its design team. Degrees of Freedom was invited to come to the August 13th meeting to share any updates and respond to the questions. DoF responded via email that it “concluded that [it] would prefer to release something to the public through [its] own channels ” and “request that any inquiries be sent to info@degreesoffreedom.org.”

Jesse referenced a message from Kevin Ellis, a PR strategist representing Democracy Builders, suggesting the formation of Town-Gown committee. Jesse also referenced a statement from the Marlboro College board of trustees calling for a meeting between townspeople, college alumni and DoF. Francie Marbury of the Marlboro Alliance spoke with Paul Costello of the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD), who indicated he would be willing to facilitate one community conversation to discuss “how the community can move forward now that the college has closed and the property has changed hands”. The Select Board will submit a formal letter to the VCRD to support the formation of an ad-hoc working group or Town-Gown committee to plan and host a

community forum. (Kreitzer, von Ranson)

Installation Of Route 9 Signage

A destination sign will be placed on Route 9 just before Auger Hole Road that will direct traffic heading to ski areas to stay on Route 9, instead of taking town road shortcuts suggested by GPS. Joe Kelly of VTrans will be contacting Road Foreman David Elliot to conduct a site visit and identify other locations for signage. The Select Board will follow up with the Wilmington Select Board to discuss signage on town roads.

South Road Speeds and Radar Signage

The Windham County Sheriff's Office has given the town the data from the temporary SMART radar sign placed on South Rd from July 1 to July 27.

Report with lower limit set		
Number of Cars	6007	
Max Speed	88	
Min Speed	14	
Avg Speed	34	
1STD	5	
2STD	10	
3STD	16	
Speeds	QTY	Percentage
Less than 16 MPH	89	1.4%
17 to 22 MPH	101	1.6%
23 to 27 MPH	0	0.0%
28 to 37 MPH	4524	72.3%
38 to 43 MPH	626	10.0%
44 to 48 MPH	100	1.6%
49 MPH or faster	35	0.6%
Mode	34	
Mean	33.59647078	
Median	34	
Skew	-0.00940474	
Variance	27.43729735	
Lower Limit Cutoff	13	

Mark Anderson's summary of the traffic report is as follows: We had our RADAR speed cart on South Rd near the Fire Department from July 1 to July 27th. Attached is the report, but a quick summary:

1. While significantly high speeds were recorded, it is probable that outlier speeds (such as 88MPH) are the result of known scientific effects that a trained operator would be able to isolate/eliminate as an erroneous output. It is probable that no car was going 88MPH, but without a trained operator being present we don't know for sure and so it is included.
2. We have low confidence in the accuracy of the dates/times represented. The speeds appear generally accurate and reliable, however. Our logger's date/time reset to 1943, 1947, and then 2020 sometime during the month it was deployed. While some analysis is provided based on time, we have no correlation to what the accurate time of the reading was. We recommend discounting any date/time information as a result.

3. For the purpose of practically [sic], we removed speeds below 13MPH to establish a normal distribution curve. The raw data is included in the report.

The Sheriff's department is working to purchase four speed feedback signs which attach to street posts. The WCSO plans to purchase the signs in late October and will meet with the Select Board and Road Foreman on-site in October to discuss their placement.

Townwide Municipal Services Survey

There was some discussion of a proposed survey to solicit feedback from residents to improve workflows and identify blindspots in the town's operations and services. The Select Board will ask town staff, boards, and committee chairs to weigh in on the proposal and prepare potential questions to include in the survey. Jesse will draft a letter to send to the committees and other possible participants to see if they think it's a valuable idea.

Beaver Management On Larrabee Road

There was a site visit on July 29th of the affected culvert on **Larrabee Rd.** with Tyler Brown of the Vt. Fish and Game Dept. Also in attendance were Dave Elliot, landowner Bob Unsworth, Patti Smith, Sue Burt, and 2 other neighbors. The decision was to hold off on installing a baffle, and install a fence. The Select Board voted to allocate \$520 to cover the cost of the fence and a baffle if it is needed in the future. (Kreitzer, Betts) Aaron will contact Skip again and let him know that he needs to remove his baffle materials from the North Pond site within the next two weeks or they will become property of the town.

Expansion Of Town Cemetery

Forrest, Linda & Jesse have formed an ad hoc Cemetery Commission and will solicit contractor bids for expansion of the Fox cemetery.

Information Items And Mail

- “A path forward for Degrees of Freedom” from Kirsten Newcomer
- Recommendations For Larrabee Rd. beaver dam
- Facility Use Agreement: Hogback Mountain Conservation Area, Eric Slayton
- 2020 Vtrans Bicycle And Pedestrian Grant Program - **Pam will forward to Planning Commission and suggest thinking about the center of town**
- Act 250 Issuance Of Permit And Cos, #2w0245-22, Marlboro College Trails, Marlboro
- Windham Regional Commission: Resources To Encourage Census Response In Your Community - **The Select Board encourages everyone to visit <https://2020census.gov/> and fill out the census.**
- Windham Regional Commission: Municipal Records Digitization Grants
- Data from South Rd. radar speed cart

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:26pm.

The Board exited Executive Session and Adjourned at 6:51pm.