

Downtown Streetscape Study Committee Feb 20, 2013
Make-up Meeting

Next scheduled DSSC mtg is Feb 27, 2013 @ 8 am
Rick presented intro
Smart Growth

Sam Bass Warner mentioned sidewalks blocked by snow on the west side of Chestnut St.

Lee discussed history of downtown improvements
Goody Clancy DiNisco

Moe mentioned 2 points to consider in the Study

- how the downtown functions
- how the downtown looks

private world - businesses won't/don't remove snow
public world - we need to be following our own guidelines

Rick mentioned Road diets, Complete Streets
interconnecting modes of transit

Moe suggested maximizing the utility of Needham
without affecting the traffic flow through Needham

Rick discussed challenges we are facing

Moe suggested sacrificing traffic speed for more
streetscape amenities

Moe suggested including the School/Lincoln Street
parking lot in the Streetscape plan and to
include the residents opposite the lot

Sam emphasized importance of safe convenient walkways from the parking lots to the businesses

Rick mentioned the DPW efforts in the past using the guidelines - Chapel Street, Chestnut/Lincoln lot, May/Chapel/Highland intersection, Petrini block improvements, Chapel Street watermain + streetscape

Moe will seek a business owner/property owner representative to join the committee

Rick discussed history of involvement
1970's - curbing completion

Moe suggest using some out-takes from the Miller, et al movie shown in the Town Hall during 300 celebration

Sam suggested trying to make the downtown look "green" with large trees lining the street

Tony discussed selection of consultant and the look and feel of each section of the downtown Theatre block vs Chestnut vs Post office

Ed mentioned elements from Newburyport, Wellesley
Lee mentioned Lexington

Rick discussed dynamics of construction + challenges
Chapter 90 availability

Discussion on reverse angle parking

Moe/Rick concluded meeting.