

**TOWN OF HADDAM
HIGGANUM COVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
ROSSI PARKING LOT
ON DEPOT ROAD, HIGGANUM, CT 06441
THURSDAY, 30 MARCH 2023
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
*Subject to Approval by the Commission***

ATTENDANCE

X	Peter Baird (5:15 p.m.)
X	Sue DeCarli
X	Dorothy Gillespie
X	Tim McCane
X	Ed Schwing, Chairman
A	Tim Teran
X	Dante Ursini
X	Bill Warner, AICP, Town Planner
X	Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk

Guest: Lisa Malloy, Director, Haddam Historical Society.

Mr. Schwing, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the 10 November 2022 and 9 February 2023 minutes was tabled.

2. Public Comments

There was no public present.

3. Site Walk

Mr. Warner reported that the idea is to create a streetscape connecting the Cove to the Center and that all projects will take a couple of years. As the Committee began walking from the Rossi parking lot down Depot Road, Mr. Warner stated he would like to see a 10 foot wide pathway (painted on the pavement) for both pedestrians and bicyclists. The Committee stopped by the culvert where they discussed the potential for a pedestrian bridge. Mr. Warner stated the town's engineer reviewed the site and a pre-fabricated bridge would cost \$57,000. Discussion followed regarding the use of state funds v. local funds.

The Committee continued to the Cove where they reviewed the recent work that had taken place along the upper ruins trail, the posting of signage on the gate, and the posting of mapping and the Master Plan on the Information Board at the entrance to the Cove. Mr. Warner briefly discussed the Rockfall Grant for the pollinator garden. Mrs. Gillespie spoke in regard to Homegrown National Park (native plants for the area). Mrs. Malloy reviewed a site map showing where the old factory was located and how the stonewall helped to funnel the water.

Mrs. Malloy noted that the historical walk will take place on Sunday, 16 April 2023, 2:00 p.m. All Committee members are expected to assist with this event.

The Committee continued down into the Cove and reviewed the areas for the split rail fence (along the steep embankment and one of the areas where the new steps were installed along the upper ruins

pathway), the area for the directional sign (at the split of Nosal Road and pathway leading down toward the lower foundations; placards ordered), where tree removal had taken place (opened up the area nicely), and where Mr. Ursini had removed some new graffiti.

The Committee discussed the construction of the overlook (area near water tower foundations) – going out approximately 20 feet from Nosal Road, placement of boulders, backfill, and split rail fencing. Potential cost - \$34,000.

Mr. Warner advised the Committee that the concrete slab (area where pavilion has been proposed) is within the 100 year flood plain and a Flood Management Certificate would be needed. Mr. Warner stated the existing slab would need to be removed to see what is underneath it. Discussion followed regarding the cost for design work, etc.

Mrs. Malloy stated grant funding for signage could be obtained through the Community Foundation of Middlesex County.

The Committee continued on down Nosal Road to where a second overlook could be created – addition of stone dust or mulch, a bench, and perhaps an interpretive sign.

4. Adjournment

MOTION: Sue DeCarli motion to adjourn. Ed Schwing second. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bunny Hall Batzner
Bunny Hall Batzner
Recording Clerk

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 13 April 2023, 6:00 p.m.