

Town of Tewksbury
Sidewalk Committee

Meeting: April 22, 2002

Place: Tewksbury Police Station Community Room

Attendees: Sam Krikorian, Ted Dooling, Phyllis White, Carolyn French, Matt Dailey, Mike Mucci, Laura Caplan, Jefferson Smith, Sandra Campo, and Franco Lucchesi.

Guests: Charlotte Cooper, correspondent for Town Crier Newspaper and Sarah Ouellette, U-Mass Lowell Nursing Student.

Meeting commenced 7:30pm.

Franco thanked nursing students for participating in Children's Opportunity Fair and felt it went well. Franco presented members with the results of the survey. 46 Survey's returned. Results are as follows.

Do you feel Tewksbury is pedestrian friendly? Yes 15%, No 81%, No response 4%.

Do you feel Tewksbury has enough sidewalks? Yes 13%, No 85%, no response 2%

Do you feel construction of sidewalks is a key safety issue? Yes 87%, no 11%, no response 2%

Would you support the Sidewalk Committee five-year plan? Yes 83%, no 17%, no response 0%

Franco stated he submitted the survey results to the Selectmen.

Franco advised that Sidewalks were not going to be on the agenda for the Selectmen's meeting this week. Franco will be out of town but feels that one of our members should attend the selectmen's meeting. Matt stated he would try to attend. Franco anticipates attending the Finance Committee meeting. Franco thanked Ted for submitting maps for our proposal. Ted left meeting at 7:45pm.

Charlotte Cooper inquired about our 5 year plan. Franco answered her questions accordingly. She inquired which roads were the priorities. We stated Shawsheen and North Streets. She asked if the Committee would be willing to reduce the \$ we were seeking in our article. Franco diplomatically answered her stating that the committee would not be willing to do so.

Charlotte brought up the idea of having people construct sidewalks in front of their own homes. Sandra responded stating that it is a good idea but some people would either not be willing to do so or not have the means to do so therefore, it probably would not be an effective way to construct them. Franco then went on to explain to her how we came up with the idea of the debt exemption and stated that we are not trying to target the entire town for sidewalks, just the most heavily traveled and most dangerous roads.

Franco stated that he received a memo from a disgruntled citizen regarding the sidewalk at Omnitek Computer at orchard St. Apparently person stated was dissatisfied with the integrity of the sidewalk.

Members discussed amending our article to state that we would only be borrowing \$200,000 per year as it does not state this fact as it is presently written.

U-Mass Lowell Nursing Student Sarah Ouellette spoke regarding the findings from a study performed by herself and some fellow students on the Town of Tewksbury.

Franco stated he feels we need to incorporate some standards for the materials to be used for sidewalks. Sam agreed and cited that the granite curbing on Helvetia Street keeps the speed of the vehicles down as drivers can no longer pass other vehicles.

Sandra will work on drafting a flyer that members will distribute to residents prior to town meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.