

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
SIDEWALK COMMITTEE

Meeting: September 10, 2001

Place: Tewksbury Police Station

Attendees: Laura Caplan, Matthew Daily, George Dooling, Carolyn French,
Sam Krikorian, and Franco Lucchessi,

Meeting commenced at 7:30 p.m..

Attending members reviewed and approved August 13th minutes with no corrections.

Two visitors to our meeting are interested and will pursue membership on the Sidewalk Committee.

Selectman Rep. Coldwell arrived late to attend and assist at our meeting today. Selectman Coldwell spoke about a 5-year plan. He stated is important to attend Spec. Finance Meeting on 9/13. Franco relayed to Selectman Coldwell how we came to the \$180,000 figure. (Cost per linear ft. per Bill Burriss and length of Shawsheen St. from Main St. to East St. being approx. 2 ½ miles, divided by 3year plan). Franco inquired to Selectman Coldwell as to whether we could have an on-going Sidewalk funding and not just once in a while. Selectman Coldwell response was that priorities in this Town were not great in the past. He stated, "We have an issue and we need to deal with this issue." Selectmen Coldwell and Gill are expected to sit with Town Manager Cressman regarding sidewalks prior to Town Meeting. Selectman Coldwell offered to ask Rep. Micelli and Sen. Tucker to attend meeting with Sidewalk Committee, if would think helpful.

Sandra Campo, visitor, expressed interest in responding to the newspaper article on sidewalk article for \$180,000 in the Advertiser.

Sam mentioned that the reason we are seeking funds from the Town Meeting via Article 10 is tried fundraising thru businesses unsuccessfully and looked into grants but Big Dig taking up all available monies currently and takes 4-5 years.

Frank spoke to guest, Mr. Champa about Route 38 Corridor as he expressed concern on Route 38 sidewalks or lack thereof. Sam reiterated that Route 38 is a state and not town road and 10-20 year window for state to fix this route due to "the big dig" expenses. Franco stated that if a handicap accessibility problem, then this is a town problem and not a state, per The State of Massachusetts.

It was discussed on Franco providing a flyer to be put near mailboxes on or directly off Shawsheen St. from Main to East St. prior to October 2nd Town Meeting. Franco will let Committee know what time on Saturday, 9/20, to meet at Oakdale Mall for flyer distribution.

Discussion on alternative funds and Sidewalk Article 10 by all present committee members. Most questioned where the \$180,000 was going to come from. Franco stated that Town Manager and some Selectmen want the article to be withdrawn this year due to budgetary issues.

It was decided that Franco and Matt would alternate chair, assistant chair positions due to Franco's time restrictions.

Ted Dooling got more information on Westford's Sidewalk policies and discussed with Committee. Ted inquired on how survey is going to Mark Nichols (reporter at Advertiser). It was concluded that Reporter Nichols made some mistakes in report.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m..