

Town of Sharon



Transportation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes November 14, 2019

Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) Members

David Straus, Chair absent	Linda Hager
Neil Coplan	Terri Rawding
David Fixler absent	

Other Attendees

Peter O'Cain, Town Engineer, DPW Representative
Mike Balestra, Sharon Police Department Representative absent
Scifi Knights Robotic Team and their families
Mike Littman - resident

Administration

- The meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board was called to order by Linda Hager at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held at the Community Center.
- Future scheduled meeting(s): TBD

Minutes

- Ms. Hager moved to approve the minutes of 10/22/19. Mr. Coplan seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

Scifi Knights Robotic Team

- A team of students named Scifi Knights presented their project to the TAB. They performed a review of parking at the train station and related traffic. They said that there is a 7.55% increase in people in Sharon in the past 10 years. They looked at old Sharon records and saw that parking at the station was an issue. They surveyed people at the station asking how often they used the station. They asked if they would use it more if there was a shuttle, 85% wanted more parking.
- The students suggested that multi-level parking be built which would be cost effective. They feel that too much building could cause an impact to the environment. They created a 3D model of parking with a mezzanine. They also suggested using a smart parking app which would monitor the number of spots and allocate spots for people aged 55 and up. They

thought energy sustainability solar panels on top of the structure would be helpful. Their conclusions to building a lot with a mezzanine on top would have no impact to residents in the area, reduce pollution, reduce the carbon footprint and they would add more bicycle parking.

- The results of their survey of 78 people at the station found that 80% wanted a separate pick up and drop off area. People wanted no more than 2 passes per household. All requested more security in the lot.

Train Station

- Town Engineer; Peter O'Cain provided weekday averages of spot use for both the Boston and Providence sides. It was determined that there are many open spots daily.
- Ms. Hager said it was important to focus on the immediate needs. She suggested signs be put up like no standing in the drop off zone, no parking along Chestnut Street.
- With reference to the survey and preamble Mr. O'Cain has the survey ready to go. It just needs approval. Mr. O'Cain said it is entered into survey monkey. Mr. Coplan suggested it be tested first. Mr. O'Cain said he would produce a test survey.
- A few edits were suggested to the survey questions.
- A conversation ensued regarding how to handle people that idle. The station is too narrow and crowded for this to be allowed.
- Mr. O'Cain said he is applying for a grant for a shuttle.

Adjournment

Through unanimous consent and by a vote of 3-0-0 the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Submitted:

Rachelle Levitts

Transportation Advisory Board Administrative Assistant