

PRESENT: Jim Hodder, Rich Davison, Frank Riepe, Larry O'Brien, Deborah Kruskal, Bill Place, Jody Kablack, Jim Kupfer, Michael Coutu, Peter and Kelly (Sudbury Design Group)

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am

The SDG team discussed the concept plan dated December 16, 2014 previously provided to the SCIAC. Mike Coutu broke the plan down into elements:

1. Town Hall

Propose a brick semi-circular a gathering space around the flagpole, with granite steps to the entrance of Town Hall to showcase building. Planting elements and walkway connections also shown. Planting at corner of driveway with Parsonage.

Committee comments - there should be more of a connection between the front of Town Hall and the Town Common, for example a staircase down the stone wall. This could be used when the No Name Street is closed off; doesn't need crosswalk. Street trees along the front of Town Hall should be somewhat small in scale so they don't hide the front of the building - Bradford Pear, something that could be limbed up, Honey Locust (grows up to 50', some varieties are smaller), nothing too dense. Walkways are not shown on VHB engineering plan due to grade/ADA issues.

2. Town Common

Existing trees shown on the plan - SDG thinks most trees should stay. Linden tree at SE corner is marginal. Maple in middle may be able to be preserved. SDG recommends keeping most of the trees, but will need better care. SDG will get an arborist in to make further determination (Bartlett Tree). Remove columnar maple.

Surface treatment of walkway in common must be determined.

Brick corner for gathering/campaigning.

Low iron fence (24") around west and south sides.

Post lantern on each corner. Benches and bollard lights along walkways.

Committee comments – somewhat undecided about trees in common. Want to wait for arborist's report.

3. First Parish

Small planting area at corner proposed. No major changes to frontage.

Committee comments – Deborah Kruskal will review plan with FP Landscape Committee.

One additional tree must be added near the FP transformers.

Frank Riepe commented that it might be better for FP to have just 1 unified sign at corner.

4. Grinnell Park /15 Hudson Road

SDG proposes combining 2 parks to enable better community use and activity in parks. Creates an internal park separate from the roadway. Remove stone wall between 2 properties, Create a larger memorial area which can be expanded for future memorials. All walkways will be ADA compliant. Will have the arborist review the health of one of the Japanese maple trees. Using low bollards for lighting in interior along paths and lamp posts at edges. Propose a vegetative screen to abutting residential property. Build a stone wall along the property line with commercial property at 29 Hudson Rd.

Committee comments – perhaps build a stone wall along the road in front of 15 Hudson Rd.
Remove the cross walk to Heritage Park and paths directed to that location.
Should trees be planted at 15 Hudson, or do we desire it to be wide open? Whatever they are should be strong straight trunks, provide shade.
Performance space should be more open - should be covered, but not traditional pavilion shape or feel (DK provided photos of post and beam structure)
Move performance space slightly further south, tuck into detention basin
War Memorial - does have room for additional memorial
Will this park be renamed? Extension of Grinnell Park
Small playground? SDG seems to think this would detract from feel of park
Other ideas that could engage children - Sandwich Museum amenities, treehouse, bridge at south end of detention basin with stone dust walkway around it

5. Lighting

SDG proposes similar style of existing post lanterns - Boston Street light, 7-8 ft. tall, with 30" lantern. Will be high tech, night sky, LED

Committee comments - Posts - wooden or aluminum? Engineered wood posts? Something that will have little rot potential. SDG will provide info on wood and wood substitute
Frank Riepe prefers natural wood, make sure there is some rustic element, not too slick
Building lighting - should we review this? SDG will review and provide design guidelines.

Bollards - floating granite head seems too modern; maybe remove head and just have light fixture on top. SDG will provide other examples.

Jody Kablack noted that a public meeting on the landscape plan will be held, but not until the committee is satisfied with more elements. Interested people, including HDC, neighbors, Presbyterian Church, SHC, Sudbury Military family Support Network will be invited.

Next Meeting: February 9 (tentative), 9 am (tentative)

Report from arborist

Specifications on light fixtures

Revised plan - bandstand, other small items

Preliminary cost estimates

Walkway surface? Hard or soft?

Adjourned 10:45 am