Chairperson Michael Joplin called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM. Present were Michael Joplin, Chuck Mueller, John Schroeder, Leslie Strauss, Steve Tiezzi, Jeremy Ziemann.

The purpose of this meeting was to review comments from the February 22 Public Presentation; and—to determine what resulting actions should be taken. Michael reported that he has spoken with the design team, who felt that the meeting went well overall and was very helpful. Also, $120,000 has been approved for Kent & Frost and Jacobson Associates to move forward with the final design and documentation process. There is no LOTSIP money, however, so bonding and other sources of funding must be explored and procured. We will move forward to obtain construction documents so that we can be eligible for funding.

Discussion indicated that the plaza area was a primary concern of the meeting attendants. The basic layout and concept seemed satisfactory. Ideas included more greening, planters rather than bollards, relocating and/or hiding the monolith main-electrical control box and the exact location and details of the informational kiosk, and painting lines around the area to test out the plaza concept. Michael will discuss these with the design team to determine feasibility and implementation.

The Committee reviewed and discussed each member of the public’s comments in detail including the submitted letters from Leif Nilsson and Virgil Lloyd and Jeanne Davies (see attached documents).

John Schroeder noted that many of the property owners along Main Street have built careers around the village and so we must be very sensitive to their concerns.

John Schroeder stressed that Jacobsen needs to contact all the utility companies (Eversource, Comcast, and Frontier) to determine what their current stance is on elevated vs. buried utility lines. Even though we’ve looked into this several times in the distant past and the cost was prohibitive, perhaps the thinking has changed and these utilities would prefer them to be underground and would be willing to pay for this to happen while the street and sidewalks are torn up. As part of this, just like any remedial foundation work on individual buildings, either the utilities or the project budget would have to incur the cost of hooking up service to each building.

We discussed the possibility of construction phasing as a way to mitigate financial and disruption concerns, but realized that phasing always makes projects more expensive and disruptive in the long run.

John Schroeder noted that even though there was a lot of focus by the public on delivery truck parking in the very center of town, the truth is delivery trucks park up and down the street in many different locations often blocking one lane of traffic. There was some discussion about regulating hours and locations for delivery trucks, but again, truth is this would be very difficult to enforce. John feels that overall it is traffic calming and a symbol of a thriving town.

Other comments resulting from the meeting which will be acted upon by Michael included:

Steve Holmes’ request to install conduits for possible future electric wires
Improving and ownership clarification of the path abutting Jacobson’s property from the Maple Street lot into town. This access will be necessary during the next phase of construction.

Davies & Lloyd complaint about lighting in the cemetery; too bright and cool. Peter Harding and Rick Holloway may be helpful in resolving this concern. John Schroeder agreed with their concern.

Jeremy Ziemann suggested that we provide MSP Updates to the Town Newsletter on an “as needed” basis to help keep the public informed of the committee’s activities and help include everyone in the process.

Steve Tiezzi recommended a committee site walk on the Saturday prior to our next meeting to visit the intended plaza area and Maple Street path. He suggested that we have our next meeting in three weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Strauss; Member MSP Committee

Attached: Notes from 2/22/18 presentation compiled by Steve Tiezzi
Leif Nilsson letter
Jean and Virgil Lloyd letter

LBS suggested Town Newsletter Update: The Main Street Project Committee Public Presentation on Feb. 22 resulted in many insightful comments and helpful input from the public for the next phase of the Main Street project. Aspects of the project that can be addressed will be brought to the attention of the design team for review and possible implementation. The committee welcomes all input and public attendance at Meetings. Please see the meeting schedule above.