

14 Feb 07

Notes from "Special Meeting" Prospect Pedestrian Bridge 6:30 pm 12 Feb 07

- Rick Hall's VOC position letter
- Jim Maxim: felt that Prospect bridge was traveled more than Mill bridge
- Dave Crowley; apology for inappropriateness of newspaper article..bridge in bad shape...remedial work?...Caring community...history of community support on various projects. Lots of traffic on Mill bridge.....recommend study....recollection of Harlen Granger, postman, falling through bridge. Volunteers needed to explore funding opportunities.
- Lee James....concerns over costs asked about history of Mill bridge...investigate "loss control" through insurance carrier...investigate totally enclosed superstructure.
- Derwood Say....loss of bridge would diminish many of the recreational positives the village now has.....suggest that the village contact Bill Burt, RR president, for his input.
- Road bridge should be investigated
- Page..... The Bristol or Patriot routes add too much distance to downtown area.
- Dick Klein....It is his recollection that the village gave up taxes to revitalize the railroad.....
  
- Faye Gibson.....concern over kids traveling crosslots
- Patricia Petroni.....rationale for closing bridge?...raising funds for bridge.....signs to alert drivers that bridge is closed: concern over increased pedestrian traffic on the roads. ....strong advocate of foot bridge possibly wood construction
- Connie & Mike Doyle....RR obligation.....costs...urges that VOC check history and lawyer regarding RR responsibility....Road Bridge? Village liability...urges that the village contact Bill Burt.
- Discussion referencing temporarily closed....legality of opening without engineering study....prior notice law.....once again "loss control" by insurance carrier was mentioned.

*FYI:*

*Happened to be at the Clerk's office yesterday morning. Rick called Dennis Dye regarding "loss control". Dennis came up to the office to review photos of bridge and he is going to send copies to village insurance carrier for loss control investigation. He didn't promise anything other than he would send them in.*

*The very interesting part of this impromptu meeting was that Dennis related his experience with the RR over a crossing in 20003. RR was interested in abandoning the crossing or maintaining it at Dennis's expense. He had to prove to them that they were responsible for the crossing and he managed to do so by checking deeds and abstracts back to 1840. He put in a great deal of time and effort in researching this. His lawyer in the effort was John Cappelini. This should be brought up when we discuss investigating RR responsibilities. It just might provide us some leverage or at least some direction. He mentioned that in his dealings with the RR, they volunteer nothing.*