

Scenic Route 169 Advisory Committee

Meeting #1 Notes- October 15, 2015

University of Connecticut Windham County Extension Center, Brooklyn, CT

Attendance

Sam Alexander, NECCOG

John Filchak, NECCOG

Delia Fey, Woodstock

Jules D'Agostino, Brooklyn

Jill Fritzsche, Canterbury

John Baldwin, Canterbury

Topics

- *Schedule of Meetings*
- *Scope of Work*
- *Planning Goals*
- *Additional Comments*

Discussion

Schedule of Meetings

- We will try to have the meetings in the same (centralized) location. Possibly Pomfret Community School
- We will try to change the public workshop to a two-meeting format, possibly in Canterbury and Woodstock as opposed to NECCOG

Scope of Work

- An ad will be placed in the Turnpike Buyer
- Better outreach to boards/commission through selectmen
- Use a statement to attract people to meetings (e.g. "Route 169: 32 miles long, ½ mile protected")
- Use public workshop to also gain input on name ideas

Planning Goals- Four main goal areas were established

- Marketing/Tourism/Branding
 - "Use the byway as an economic driver"
 - "Use as an avenue for promoting businesses"
- Land Use/Historic Preservation

- Guidance should be given to towns
- Towns should each have a vision for protecting the roadway
- Relate to town plans (POCD)
- Right of Way Improvements/Maintenance
 - Guidance to towns/ConnDOT
 - Traffic calming
 - Different treatments in commercial areas as opposed to rural areas and villages
 - Priorities
 - Curvature/alignment
 - Stone walls
 - Tree canopy
 - Road width
 - Guard rails
 - Approaches
 - “We need an avenue for communication with ConnDOT”
- Regional/State/Intermunicipal Cooperation and Coordination of Efforts
 - The plan needs to be maintained by a permanent committee
 - Subcommittees established for things like marketing
 - Separate plans for things like marketing
 - Communication with ConnDOT is very important
 - What is the balance between property rights and preservation- “how do we get landowners to buy into preservation efforts?” (Each town should address this)
 - Each town should adopt a vision for the preservation of the roadway
 - “How do we get Route 169 on meeting agendas?”

Additional Comments

- Name Idea
 - Quinebaug Country Trail
- Grassroots approach to marketing
 - “Instead of contracting with a marketing firm in the coming years, could we pull together people from our communities with expertise in those areas?”
- An assessment of progress relative to the 1995 Plan is needed