

RECREATION & COMMUNITY
ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING

A G E N D A

TOWN OF CHINCOTEAGUE

January 13, 2015 - 5:00 P.M. – Council Chambers - Town Hall

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

AGENDA ADOPTION

1. LeKites Memorial Park
 - Proposed improvement project (R. Lane)
2. Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park
 - Playground Equipment
3. Chincoteague Bicycle Brochure
4. Committee Member Comments

ADJOURN



STAFF REPORT

To: Recreation and Community Enhancement Committee

Through: Robert G. Ritter, Town Manager

From: William Neville, Planning Director

Date: January 13, 2015

Subject: Lekites Road Property

❖ Discuss Improvement to Town Property for Wildlife Observation

The Town of Chincoteague currently owns approximately 13.5 acres of undeveloped property along Fowling Gut, located south of Bunting Road and with property access and frontage on Lekites Road. The land was donated to the Town as a memorial to Dr. D. L. LeKites and L. Katherine LeKites with a restriction that the property shall remain in its natural state and may be used for civic purposes.



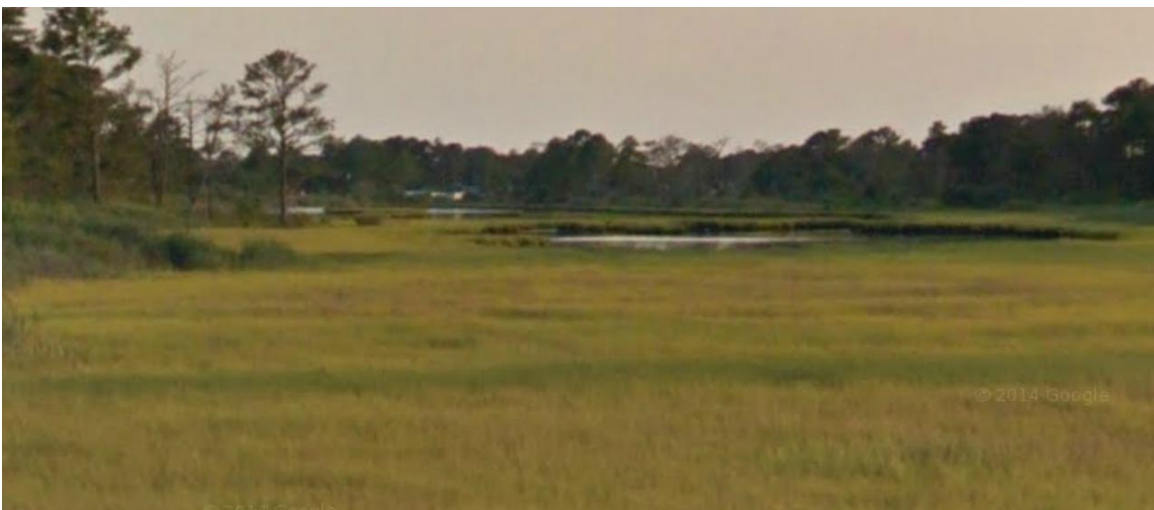
Ruth Lane would like to discuss with the Committee the idea of a Town project to build a boardwalk and wildlife observation deck (approximately 660 linear feet) on this property for the benefit of Town residents and visitors. Deed of Gift is attached for reference.



View of Parking Area on Lekites Drive



View of Property from Bunting Road



View of Pond Area at Center of Property



Official Website of
Accomack County
Eastern Shore of Virginia



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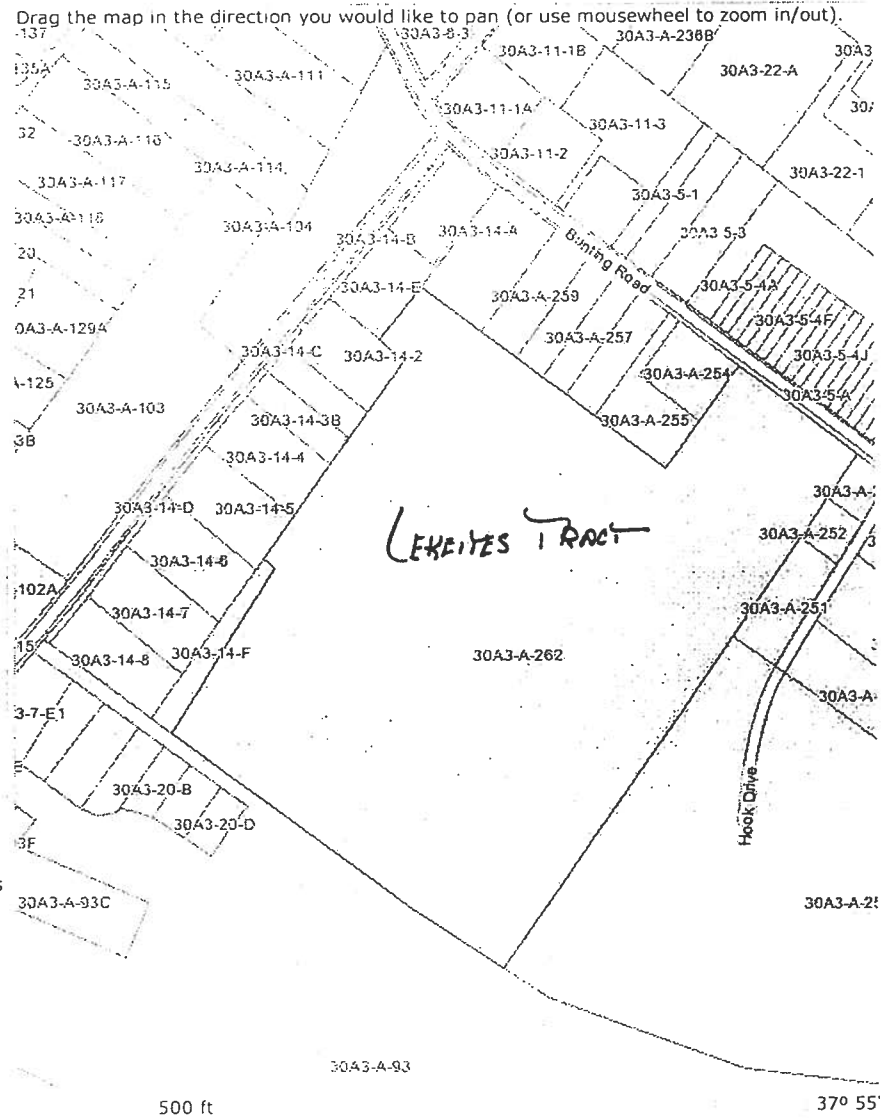
Search Results Details Map

Detail Layers

- Street Addresses
- Roads
 - Roads
 - Route 13
- Town Names
- Chesapeake Bay Act Areas
- Airport Overlay District
- Agric. & Forestal District Lands
- Future Land Use (2008)
- Flood Zones
- Coastal Barrier Resource Areas
- Wetlands
- Enterprise Zones
- Election Districts
- Voting Precincts
- Pavement (subscription)
- Driveways (subscription)
- Building Footprints (subscription)

County Resources

- Fire and Rescue Stations
- Minimum Fire Response Times
- Minimum Rescue Response Times
- Fire Districts
- Rescue Districts
- County Administration Building
- Airports
- Schools
- Solid Waste Disposal Facilities



South side border 30A3-A-180

607/610-1982

491 679

401-1870

2387

THIS DEED OF GIFT, made this 22nd day of May, 1985, between Henry P. Custis, Jr. and E. Lou Teeter Blizzard, Administrators c.t.a. of the Estate of L. Katherine LeKites, parties of the first part and Town of Chincoteague, a Virginia municipal corporation, party of the second part:

WITNESSETH: That the parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and other valuable consideration unto them in hand paid at and before the signing, sealing and delivery of this deed, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby grant, bargain, sell and convey with SPECIAL WARRANTY of Title unto the said Town of Chincoteague the following described tract or parcel of land, to-wit:

All that certain lot or parcel of land situate on Chincoteague Island, Accomack County, Virginia, containing by estimation 12 Acres, more or less, but same is conveyed in gross and not by the acre without accountability for excess or deficiency, and bounded generally as follows: On the Northeast, by Bunting Road and the properties now or formerly owned by Arthur Watson, Leonard Moore, Delbert Birch, Ronald Snead and Olive Snead, Sheldon Lewis and Clairvill Thornton; on the Southeast, by the land now or formerly owned by Coastal Cable TV, Inc., Judson Budd and Vernon Cherrix; on the Southwest, by the canal and the land now or formerly owned by Elmer Matthews; and on the Northwest, by the land now or formerly owned by Elmer Matthews and Clairville Thornton.

The herein conveyed tract or parcel of land is conveyed together with all privileges, tenements, hereditaments, appurtenances and rights of way thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining; being a part of the tract or parcel of land conveyed to a certain Dr. D. L. LeKites by deed from Kendall J. Bunting, Sr. and wife, dated the 13th day of November, 1935, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Accomack in Deed Book 149, at page 392. The said Dr. D. L. LeKites devised said tract or parcel of land to his wife, Rachel Lee LeKites by will dated November 12, 1931 and recorded in Will Book 26, at page 69. The said Rae G. I. LeKites, who was the same person as Rachel Lee LeKites, devised said tract or parcel of land to her four children E. Lou Teeter, E. Irwin LeKites, D. Paul LeKites and L. Katherine

AYRES, HARTNETT
& CUSTIS
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
ACCOMACK, VA

BOOK 431 PAGE 580

LeKites, by will dated the 7th day of June, 1951 and recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Will Book 29, at page 212. The said E. Lou Teeter, E. Irwin LeKites and D. Paul LeKites conveyed their interest in said tract or parcel of land to L. Katherine LeKites by deed dated the 16th day of February, 1967, which deed is recorded in the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 269, at page 375.

Possession of the herein conveyed tract or parcel of land is to be given immediately upon the signing, sealing and delivery of this deed.

This conveyance is made subject to the following restrictions

- (1) The property shall not be subdivided into smaller lots.
- (2) The property shall remain in its natural state. However, buildings may be built upon it and used for civic purposes.

This conveyance is being made to the Town by the grantors herein as a memorial to Dr. D. L. LeKites and L. Katherine LeKites.

WITNESS the following signatures and seals.

Henry P. Custis, Jr. (SEAL)
 Henry P. Custis, Jr.,
 Administrator c.t.a. of the
 Estate of L. Katherine LeKites

E. Lou Teeter Blizzard (SEAL)
 E. Lou Teeter Blizzard,
 Administrator c.t.a. of the
 Estate of L. Katherine LeKites

State of Virginia,

County of Accomack, to-wit:

I, *James D. Kearney*, a Notary Public in and for the County of Accomack, in the State of Virginia, do hereby certify that Henry P. Custis, Jr., Administrator c.t.a. of the Estate of L. Katherine LeKites, whose name is signed to the foregoing writing, bearing date the 22nd day of May, 1985, has acknowledged the same before me in my County aforesaid.

My commission expires the ^{6 of 15} 14 day of *February*, 1989.

BOOK 491 PAGE 531

Given under my hand this 12th day of June, 1985.

Lawrence D. Kennedy
Notary Public

State of Delaware,

City/County of Sussex, to-wit:

I, Phyllis A Fisher, a Notary Public in and for the City/County of Rehoboth, in the State of Delaware, do hereby certify that E. Lou Teeter Blizzard, Administrator c.t.a. of the Estate of L. Katherine LeKites, whose name is signed to the foregoing writing, bearing date the 22nd day of May, 1985, has acknowledged the same before me in my City/County aforesaid.

My commission expires the 7th day of September, 1985

Given under my hand and NOTARIAL SEAL this 10th day of June, 1985.

(SEAL)

Phyllis A Fisher
Notary Public



VIRGINIA:--

In the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Accomack County, June 12, A. D., 1985
of Gift
This Deed from Henry P. Custis, Jr. and E. Lou Teeter Blizzard, Administrators
c. t. a. of the Estate of L. Katherine LeKites, to Town of Chincoteague,

was, with the certificate of the acknowledgment thereof, thereto annexed, received by me in the Clerk's Office this day and admitted to record at 9:20 o'clock, A. M.

Tested Peggy H. Hensell by Samuel H. Cooper Jr. Clerk



STAFF REPORT

To: Recreation and Community Enhancement Committee

Through: Robert G. Ritter, Town Manager

From: William Neville, Planning Director

Date: January 13, 2015

Subject: Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park Playground

- ❖ Discuss Installation Plan for Phase Two Playground Replacement (Ages 6-12 play structure)
-



Phase Two replacement playground equipment has been identified by the Committee as the next priority for installation this Spring. A rocket tower for the 6-12 age group is possible as a free standing structure. The idea of connecting this structure to the existing blue playground equipment was discouraged by the sales representative because it would generate the need to bring the old equipment into compliance with current ADA and design standards.

Staff will provide an update at the meeting on several ideas regarding location and cost of this option. Committee members may wish to discuss a schedule and budget for other priorities of ongoing maintenance and improvement projects.

Tips for BIKING

- Ride with traffic
- Stop and look both ways at all street intersections
- Use hand signals when you turn
- Do not pass a car or truck it is dangerous & watch out for buses
- Walk your bike if you don't feel safe
- Wear a helmet, not an ipod
- Park your bicycle so you do not block sidewalks, doors, or driveways

Tips for WALKING

- Walk on sidewalk or edge of road, and against the traffic
- Dusk and dawn are the most dangerous times of the day for pedestrians. Wear bright colors
- Use crosswalks and look both ways

Chincoteague Island Walk & Bike Map



Town of Chincoteague Police Department

Recreation & Community Enhancement Committee

Safe Routes to School Steering Committee

6150 Community Drive, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336

(757) 336-6919

Rules of the Road

Walking

Pedestrians have the right of way, however always walk 'defensively'. Remember the basics: look both ways before you cross the road, do not step out into the street between parked cars, and use the sidewalks, trails and crosswalks.

-If you walk along the side of the road, **walk against the flow of traffic** if at all possible.

Bicycling

- Bicyclists must **ride with the flow of traffic** on the right side of the road. Exceptions to this are when bicyclists are preparing for a left turn, avoiding unsafe condition. Bicyclists must not ride between two lanes of traffic moving in the same direction.

- Bicyclists must ride single file on roadways. If a usable bicycle trail is located next to a roadway bicyclists must ride on the trail, not the roadway.

- Bicyclists pulling onto a sidewalk or roadway from a driveway must yield the right of way to pedestrians or vehicles already on the sidewalk or roadway.

-Bicycles used between sunset and sunrise must have a white light on its front with the light being visible at least 500 feet to the front. The bicycle must have a red reflector on the rear visible 300 feet from the rear or a red light visible for 500 feet to the rear.

-Helmets are recommended for all ages, particularly for kids under 10 years of age.

Skateboarding

-Use of skateboards and roller blades is not permitted on sidewalks, trails, or on public streets.

Scoters / Mopeds

A scooter is considered a motor vehicle while operated on a roadway and should follow rules of the road. Scooter operators must be at least 16 years old and have valid government identification. As of July 1, 2014, all vehicles must be state DMV registered.

DOI approved helmets are now required and operators must wear a face shield, safety glasses, or goggles, or be protected by safety glass or windshield.

Scoters are not permitted on sidewalks or trails.

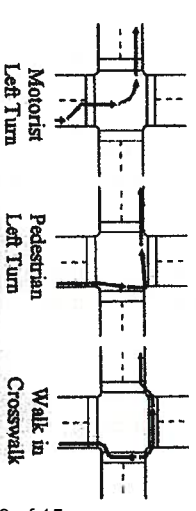
Rules of the Road

Changing Directions



Bicyclists must signal their intentions to stop or turn. The proper signals are made with the left arm as shown above. The signals do not have to be given continuously if both hands are needed to control the bicycle.

At an Intersection



15
of
9

Bicyclists may make left turns as either motorists or pedestrians do. To make a pedestrian left turn, the bicyclist should continue straight across the intersecting road, obey the traffic signals, turn left at the corner and proceed as usual. Bicyclists also dismount and walk in the crosswalks of the two intersecting roads. Please refer to the examples shown above.





This pamphlet was produced by the Town of Chincoteague's Recreation & Community Enhancement Committee and republished by the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee. Projects such as this pamphlet are steps towards the common goals of the Committee, Police Department and the Town Council to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety on Chincoteague Island.



Bicycling Map of Chincoteague



Bike Routes

-  Suggested alternate or 'safe' route
-  Dangerous, high traffic, narrow pavement, or no shoulders
-  Suggested route
-  Scenic route, less traffic





MEMORANDUM

The Town of Chincoteague, Incorporated

To: Recreation and Community Enhancement Committee
Through: Robert Ritter, Town Manager
From: William Neville, Director of Planning
Date: January 13, 2015
Subject: Project Updates

The status of ongoing projects is updated below for Committee review and discussion. The Committee should consider preparing 5 year cost estimates and recommendations for the Town Budget for any new improvements identified in the **Outdoor Recreation Areas and Facilities Inventory**, dated September 2012.

Downtown Main Street/Robert Reed Park

The Main Street revitalization project, acquisition of Bridge Street right of way, purchase of additional land, and construction of the fishing pier are all changes that will be incorporated into an overall master plan for Robert Reed Downtown Park.

- Next Steps:
- VDOT will issue a land use permit for the designed improvements. Shared Parking agreement with the Health Center has been completed.
 - Construction for east side of Main Street streetscape improvements has been completed. Final phase improvements are in the design phase. Phase 2D will go out for bid in Fall 2015.
 - Waterman's Memorial sculpture location has been approved by Town Council

Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park

As the most complete Town Park with a range of recreational use facilities, the focus continues to be on maintenance and completing minor improvements

- Next Steps:
- New tree planting recommendations are needed.
 - New life rings have been installed on the pier
 - Drainage improvements around the playground, installation of new play surface mulch, removal of the tire swing and repair/replacement to current playground equipment is ongoing.
 - Selection of next phase playground equipment is needed.
 - Incorporate planned improvements into the Outdoor Recreation Areas and Facilities Inventory

Mariners Point

Committee members have identified the overlook area at Curtis Merritt Harbor as the number one priority for planning future open space and recreational opportunities in the Town. The Ships Mast Memorial has been installed

- Next Steps:
- Ships Mast Memorial compass base is in progress
 - Low fencing may be advisable as a safety measure around the perimeter of the guy wires
 - Update the Outdoor Recreation Areas and Facilities Inventory document showing the proposed improvements and the Ships Mast Memorial as needed

Ocean Boulevard Extended

The small bridge/boardwalk to be constructed over Fowling Gut has been completed.

- Next Steps:
- Staff is working with property owners along Coach's Lane to obtain an easement for extension of the bike path to connect back to Maddox Boulevard
 - Continue working with USFWS or other sources to obtain grant funds for paving the trail*
 - Install signage and schedule an 'soft' opening ceremony

CNWR Bike Trail Extension

FWS completed the boardwalk bike trail connection to the Chincoteague Museum by extending the trail across the front of the Museum property to a new crosswalk location and connecting the Maddox Boulevard shoulder bike lane.

- Next Steps:
- Bike lane improvements along Maddox Boulevard from the Traffic Circle to AJ's Restaurant may be approved for construction through the remaining Sarbanes Grant funds or with a long term VDOT capital project
 - Interim shoulder improvements around the traffic circle are being considered by the Public Works Director for possible construction with VDOT maintenance funds

Park Signage

The Committee approved an addition to the main sign at Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park which commemorates the families who donated land for the park. The sign was installed by the Public Works Department in June 2014. Signs were also donated and installed between the playground and the basketball court which encourage proper behavior.

- Next Steps:
- A replacement sign has been installed at Mariners Point
 - Consider incorporating the research, design and manufacturing of interpretive signs for the Robert Reed Downtown Park expansion area/Historic Bridge information kiosk.

Hallie Whealton Smith Drive

The Town received a Safe Routes to School construction grant to construct a bicycle shelter and a shared use trail between the Elementary and Combined Schools along Hallie Whealton Smith Drive.

- Next Steps:
- 50% complete construction plans have been prepared by consultant and submitted to VDOT for review.
 - Environmental permit application will be prepared by the Town
 - Schedule a meeting to review the proposed trail alignment and several design details with School administration

Donald Leonard Park

The Leonard Family has completed Phase One improvements with the assistance of a landscape designer to recommend plantings and improvements to the Park. This location has been discussed as a possible location for installation of improved water access for a kayak launch. Town Council approved the location of a ‘memorial boulder’.

- Next Steps:
- Refine park master plan (possible soft shoreline demonstration project)
 - Identify incremental improvements to be completed as a part of regular Town maintenance program
 - Donna Leonard will present information regarding the purchase and installation of a pier, floating dock and kayak launch area.

Island Nature Trail

The Island Nature Trail includes approximately 1.2 miles of paved and unpaved trails located in preserved open space along Hallie Whealton Smith Drive. The paved trail surface has buckled and needs to be repaired and repaved. Hurricane Sandy caused wind and flood damage to numerous trees throughout the park. Mature pines have been stressed by the pine bark beetle.

- Next Steps:
- Review park master plan to determine if newly cleared areas provide an opportunity for additional open space uses and natural plantings.
 - Identify trail paving to be completed as a part of regular Town maintenance program, or pursue grant applications. Grant application filed with Virginia DCR in December 2013, environmental permitting is underway with assistance from A-NPDC.

R. Watson Sr. Memorial Park

The Chincoteague Garden Club maintains the perennial garden project.

- Next Steps:
- New planting and brick sidewalk improvements have been completed along with the Main Street revitalization project.
 - Future improvements are on hold for additional funding or donations

Recreation and Community Enhancement Committee Meeting Minutes November 10, 2014

Committee Members Present:

John Jester, Chairman
Bob Conklin
David Johnson
Arthur Leonard, Councilman
Gene Wayne Taylor, Councilman
Linda Ryan
Jack Van Dame

Staff Present:

Robert G. Ritter, Town Manager
William Neville, Town Planner

Call to Order

Chairman Jester called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM

Public Participation

There was no public participation. Councilman Ben Ellis attended the meeting.

Agenda Adoption

Councilman Leonard motioned, seconded by Mr. Conklin to adopt the agenda. Unanimously approved.

1. Robert Reed Park

- **Proposed donation (L.Walton)**
Ms. Laurie Walton did not attend the meeting and this item was not considered.

- **Relocation of “LOVE CHAIRS” for Christmas Decorations**
Town Manager Ritter stated that the “Love Chairs” are placed in the same location that the “Christmas by the Sea” sign is usually located. Public Works Director Spurlock asked if the chairs should be moved or left in place with the understanding that they may not hold up to multiple relocations.

Committee members suggested that the chairs should remain in their current location and they could be lighted for the holidays. The sign was proposed in a new location between the pergola and the picnic shelter.

2. Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park

- **Playground Equipment**
Town Planner Neville reported that the playground has been shipped and an installation date is scheduled for December 1st, 2nd and 3rd. After removal of the existing equipment and mulch, drainage improvements will be made by installing several inches of clean gravel below the new 9” deep mulch play surface that will be separated by filter fabric and surrounded by a 12” high black plastic border.

Phase 2 improvements to purchase a rocket theme play area for the older kids can be considered over the winter months for possible installation prior to the summer season. Detailed proposals for this phase will be presented at a future meeting.

Chairman Jester suggested improvements to the other play areas including rubber mats under the swing set, ballfield fence modifications, and possible grading of the right baseline and outfield for drainage considerations.

The remaining balance in the Playground Improvement Fund was discussed.

The Chairman asked about the disposition of the old play equipment after it is removed and whether it could be donated to the YMCA if it is still safe for use.

– **Recognition of Volunteers and Donations**

Committee members acknowledged the efforts of the community to raise funds and plan for the new playground equipment, particularly the Town Police Department for their contribution of \$15,000 toward the phase one play area improvements.

Chairman Jester reminded Staff that a sign should be ordered to thank the contributors to this effort and to post the necessary park rules for the play area.

3. Committee Member Comments

Mr. Conklin suggested that the Committee continue its work on the Ocean Boulevard Trail over the winter months to seek funding for a paved surface, safe crossings at road intersections, signage, and pavement markings near the Dollar General store.

Chairman Jester distributed the revised Bicycle Safety brochure for review by the Committee and consideration at the next meeting along with other ideas to enhance safe bicycling opportunities.

Councilman Taylor and Committee members discussed options for connecting the Ocean Boulevard bike route to Maddox Boulevard along Coaches Lane or Chicken City Road.

Ms. Ryan offered thanks for the new bike racks that the Town installed near the Library and the Robert Reed Park sign.

Mr. Johnson asked about the schedule for completing the Safe Routes to School Trail along Hallie Whealton Smith Drive which must utilize grant funds by next September. Town Manager Ritter responded with an update. He also suggested that the Committee should consider how many other special projects should be approved for Robert Reed Park.

Adjourn:

Ms. Linda Ryan motioned, seconded by Mr. Van Dame to adjourn the meeting.