



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



CHRISTOPHER D. CLEMENT, SR.
COMMISSIONER

JEFF BRILLHART, P.E.
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

MEETING MINUTES

MEMORIAL BRIDGE PROJECT
PLAQUES / PORTAL MONUMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

Date: August 7, 2012
Time: 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Project: Memorial Bridge Replacement Project – 13678F
Portsmouth, NH to Kittery, ME

Subcommittee Members:

Richard Candee, Portsmouth Historical Society, Chair, Subcommittee
Rose Eppard, Citizen-at-large
Tom Reinauer, Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission and Kittery Area MPO
Gail Drobnik, Citizen-at-large
Ken Herrick, USS Albacore
Stephan Smith, Piscataqua Productions
Maurice Foster, Retired, US Air Force
Richard Adams, Retired, US Marine Corps
Richard Brooks, President, Central Veterans Council

NHDOT:

Keith Cota, Chief Project Manager, Bureau of Highway Design
Nickie Hunter, District Construction Engineer, Bureau of Construction
Denis Switzer, Contract Administrator, Bureau of Construction
Jillian Edelmann, Cultural Resource Specialist, Bureau of Environment
Sheila Charles, Cultural Resources Assistant / Bureau of Environment

NHDHR:

Laura Black, Special Projects and Compliance Specialist

Design-Build Team

Stephen DelGrosso, Archer Western Contractors
Thomas Hale, Archer Western Contractors
Josh Craine, Daedalus

Consultant Team:

Loretta Girard Doughty, HDR

Jennifer Zorn, McFarland Johnson

The meeting started at approximately 2:00 pm at the Discover Portsmouth, Portsmouth, NH.

Josh Craine, from Daedalus (the firm conducting the restoration work on the plaques and portal monument) provided a brief overview of the restoration process. He provided three samples of actual bronze artwork from the 1923 Memorial Bridge that had been restored to different shades. In general, the shades were referred to as light, medium and dark.

Josh explained the three shade choices were possible as the final color of the two plaques, dentil work and portal monument previously located at the top of the truss on the Portsmouth side.

The NHDOT tasked the subcommittee with voting on their preferred shade for the final restoration. Upon a vote of 9 subcommittee members, it was determined that both the light and medium shades were acceptable for the final restoration. The dark shade was not selected. Daedalus will restore these pieces of bronze artwork to the light or medium shade (or possibly a shade in between the light and medium).

The final arrangement of the plaques, dentil work, portal monument and eagle were then discussed by the NHDOT and the subcommittee. Three renderings provided by AWC/NHTB were shown that detailed the three options available. Josh Craine and Steve DeGrosso answered the questions for the subcommittee.

In general, option 1 showed an arrangement similar to the original arrangement but with one small bronze attachment on the front center of the portal beam. Option 2 showed this same arrangement but with the bronze artwork covering the front of the portal beam and extending further out on each side of the portal monument. Option 3 was similar to Option 1 but with the addition of extra dentil work on each side of the arrangement intended to soften the edges of the arrangement. Option 3 was the single option that would necessitate an extra cost to the project.

Josh and Steve continued to answer the questions of the subcommittee. One specific question, by Richard Candee, was whether or not the end portion of the bronze artwork on the portal beam could be angled downward onto each bracing (the small diagonal beam located in each corner of the portal). It was agreed by AWC/Daedalus/NHDOT that this would be evaluated and attempted, if no extra cost was realized.

The NHDOT tasked the subcommittee with voting on their choice of the final arrangement. Upon a vote of 9 subcommittee members, it was determined that Option 2 was the preferred arrangement.

The subcommittee then focused on the re-use for the four small plaques that include: two identical bridge dedication plaques (formerly located on the 1923 bridge), one bridge dedication plaque for the Waddell Vertical Lift Bridge (formerly located on the 1923 bridge), and one dedication plaque for the Scott Avenue Approach (formerly mounted on the ground in Memorial Park).

It was decided that Jennifer Zorn would work with NHDOT and AWC/HNTB to find examples of similar work done on other bridges. The examples would have to fit into the contract scope of work and be reviewed by NHDOT and AWC/HNTB prior to their consideration as a viable option to the subcommittee. *(FYI – this work is currently underway)*

The meeting concluded at approximately 3:30pm.

All revisions suggested by the subcommittee members and attendees on the draft version of these meeting minutes have been incorporated. These meeting minutes are considered correct and final. Any further comments should be submitted to Jennifer Zorn at jzorn@mjinc.com.

Submitted By:
Jennifer Zorn, Public Outreach Coordinator

