

Town of Arrowsic
Minutes of Planning Board Site Walk
Conditional Use Permit Application for Replacement of Existing Bridge
located at the end of Bald Head Road for access to Squirrel Point Lighthouse
November 7, 2024, 3:30 PM

Location: Existing Bridge on footpath beginning at the end of Bald Head Road, ending at Squirrel Point Lighthouse on property owned by Maine Dept of Inland Wildlife and Fisheries.

Attending: Vicky Stoneman (PB Chair), Eileen Bonine (PB), Joe Bonnett (PB), Paul Cunningham (PB), Don Sheldon (PB), Mike Field (CEO), Chris Brett (representing Citizens for Squirrel Point Lighthouse)

This site walk, led by Chris Brett, is a precursor to consideration of Building Permit and Conditional Use Permit for the replacement of a pedestrian bridge.

The site walk began in the Trail Head parking area at the end of Bald Head Rd. and proceeded down the footpath to the existing bridge.

The existing bridge was constructed in the 1980s by a former lighthouse keeper to provide foot traffic ingress and egress to/from the lighthouse all year round.

The current structure is deteriorating because of age and the rising water level. The bridge is subject to flooding at high tide, eroding the supports and span, and potentially resulting in loss of the ability to cross the bridge.

The committee considered rehab, but decided on a more long-term solution, replacement with a new structure.

- Lengthen bridge 10 feet to total length of 50 feet, width of 48". Aluminum ramps will be built on each end of the main span.
- The structure will be secured to the base by utilizing a stone-filled crib on each end.
- Signage will be provided, indicating maximum weight allowance.
- Since a bridge currently exists, a replacement structure is permitted to be constructed.
- Bridge will not require removal each year.

The issue of slipping concerns was raised and discussed. The CSP Committee will look into adding measures to reduce slipping.

The site walk concluded at 3:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Bonine