

MINUTES  
WEST HARTFORD PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMISSION MEETING  
MONDAY February 11, 2019  
WEST HARTFORD TOWN HALL, ROOM 312  
Next Meeting March 11, 2018 @ 7:00PM ROOM 312

Board Members in attendance: Daniel Johnson, Laurie Silverman, Dan Firestone, Sandy Fry, Ken Livingston, Jill Morawski.

Town Staff in attendance: Helen Rubino-Turco, Director of Leisure Services

Quorum requirements were met.

- 1) Call to order 7:10PM. Introductions of those in attendance was made.
- 2) Approval of previous meeting minutes. It was noted that Mayor Shari Cantor's name was misspelled and that regarding the election of officers, MaryEllen had made the motion and Jill had seconded. Dan Firestone made a motion for approval of the corrected minutes, seconded by Laurie Silverman, all voted in favor.
- 3) Old Business
  - a. Collection of before data for North Main Street road diet trial:
    - i. Duane Martin confirmed in a phone conversation with Sandy that the data for traffic before a road diet had been collected already
      1. Paul Hogan, resident of North Main St requested copy of data from the Town engineers, Helen Rubino Turco said she would follow up.
    - ii. Schedule for request for funds for the road diet trial - will be made in March to the town council
    - iii. Dan Firestone made a motion, seconded by Laurie Silverman that a letter be drafted by Sandy Fry to be sent to the Town Manager on behalf of the West Hartford Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission expressing our support for expenditure of Town funds for the North Main Street road diet trial.
  - b. Update on Mountain Rd/Albany Avenue intersection
    - i. The owner at south west corner is in discussion with the Town
  - c. Plan of Conservation and Development Transportation
    - i. Jill Morawski, Sandy Fry, and Scott Franklin attended
    - ii. The meeting stressed the important of regional connectivity
    - iii. An attendee raised the importance of crosswalks at specific locations including schools, and specifically crossing New Britain Avenue at Main Street for access to Conard High School. The Commission discussed this further and suggested that other priorities should include bus stops and municipal centers - Town Hall, Libraries, Community Centers.
    - iv. Suggestions regarding plan of conservation and development can be made on the Town website and the Commission will send out a link to the materials that were presented at the POCD meeting.
  - d. Update from Town Staff in attendance, Helen Rubino-Turco
    - i. In Parks and Rec Department, West Hartford Celebrate June 1<sup>st</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. There will be a bike corral once again.
    - ii. In 2018, The West Hartford community signed on to a "ten-minute walk to a park" pledge, which is a national campaign. The Parks Department will work with the West Hartford Land Trust on this effort. We have 5 major

parks, and approx. 5 pocket-parks. Last year was the first year of the initiative. The Ten-Minute walk day is October 10, 2019.

1. Other events are going to be scheduled around this with events taking place between Earth Day and 10/10. These other initiatives would need proposals by April 2019. Bike rides, day events, stories in the park, yoga in the park etc.
  2. The Commission discussed celebrating Bike to Work differently this year, with several locations for bike to work breakfasts in town, at large employers, large commercial locations.
- iii. Park Planning - plans for Wolcott are close to complete and Kennedy Park will be the next park addressed.
  - iv. Sandy Fry spoke with Duane prior to the meeting and reported the following:
    1. The town is formulating paving program, will likely include sections of Fern, Boulevard . Ridgewood, Richmond Lane, Ringold Lane
    2. DOT will be paving New Britain Ave from Chatfield to South Main and considering Road Diet. Commission may consider getting involved in the process or provide feedback to the State.
  - v. LimeBike is currently off the table, but the Town plans to participate in a regional RFP (request for proposals) for a bike share provider.
    1. The Town would like the Commission to provide input and advice regarding bike share. Bike share mobility will be added to the next meeting for discussion.
- e. Items for consideration of the board
    - i. Need for more crosswalks specifically on Farmington Ave
      1. This will be moved to next meeting to allow resident Edward Pawlak to comment on specific areas.
      2. Location near Stop and Shop on Farmington Ave was raised as a concern, especially people crossing from Stop n Shop to the CVS Plaza. This might be a difficult location to solve.
    - ii. Locating speed check signs, A concern had been raised that the signs are placed in locations where traffic is going more slowly. Sandy talked to Duane and shared this information: 14 of newer signs in use rotated every 4-6 months, 3 cycles, they place them near speed limit signs, after turns, near schools. They need to be placed where they get sufficient solar exposure and they need to be in the public right of way. 8 of the older style are used in residential areas.
    - iii. Need for safety campaign among the Town, build a safety culture
      1. Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety
      2. School bus safety awareness
      3. Banners rollout pre-large events
      4. Helen will discuss banners with the business association and will discuss the idea of a safety campaign with other staff.

#### 4) New Business

- i. Bishops Corner Intersection upcoming meeting March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Bishops corner intersection project, DOT will be presenting at the next Bishops corner neighborhood meeting

BCNA - Transportation Committee Meeting (**Committee Members Only**)

Thursday, March 7, 2019

7:30pm-9:00pm

Bishops Corner Senior Center

- b. Development of standard West Hartford Bike rack design
  - i. Creation of Subcommittee was recommended.
  - ii. Jill Morawski, and residents Ethan Frankel and Alan Blasenstein were designated to the subcommittee
  - iii. See: The Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals Guide to Bike Parking (Sandy can provide a copy) for reference. Helen will provide a copy of a report on bike racks that was completed a few years ago.
- 5) Update on Bike West Hartford Inc.
  - a. Ethan Frankel reported that donations are needed for Center Streets and he encouraged attendees to try to locate new sponsors.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Johnson, Secretary and Board Member  
West Hartford Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission