

MINUTES
WEST HARTFORD PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMISSION MEETING
Monday March 9th, 2020 @ 7PM ROOM 400
Next Meeting: April 12, 2020 @ 7PM ROOM 400

Board Members in attendance: Sandy Fry, Daniel Johnson, Colin Gillespie, Paul Hogan, Denisse Gutierrez, Ken Livingston, Jill Morawski

Town Representatives in attendance: Duane Martin, Town Engineer, Marc Blanchard, Leisure Services, Councilmember Ben Wenograd

Others in attendance: Laurie Silverman, Rob Dexter, Kevin Feely, Ed Pawlak, Ethan Frankel, Kevin Sullivan, John Wesson, Max Jones

1. Quorum was held. Call to order 7:04 PM
2. Approval of previous meeting minutes on a motion by Colin Gillespie, seconded by Ken Livingston, the Minutes were approved unanimously.
3. Old Business:
 - a. North Main Street
 - i. Sandy provided updates on the North Main Street Road Project.
 - The RFP is out as of March 9th 2020
 - The Town adopted many of the changes sent by the commission including requests for more specific updates on progress
 - The Town agreed for the correction of time to a 4-month trial period but left the extension of the trial for discussion with the consultants
 - The Town may repave portions of North Main Street. Depending on the consultant's recommendation, they may wait to start trial once the repaving portions are complete
 - The Town will invite the Commission to a meeting with the consultants before the July 1, 2020 tentative start date
 - b. Updates from Town Staff and Repaving
 - ii. Duane Martin– North Main Street Bridge Project is trying to finish the project this calendar year.
 - Ethan Frankel, resident, enjoyed the calming construction has caused
 - Ed Pawlak asked a breakdown of cost to extend the road diet. Duane Martin responded, it is an added cost to keep consultant monitoring the road diet and any facilities.
 - o Ed also asked if the 4-month trial happened outside of the ideal school season, what consideration would the Town and consultants make?
 - Sandy Fry stated that once a consultant is on board, we will have the opportunity to discuss more solid dates and if successful it will be permanent
 - iii. The Four Mile temporary installation monitoring will end in April 2020 then determine if it will be permanent.
 - o Roads on the calendar for changes/paving/updates
 - 3 Rounds of repaving

- May, July, and September (Third Round)
 - North Main Street Albany to Pioneer will get sharrows
 - Town is interested in bike lanes on both sides of Fern Street near Morley Elementary School, this is anticipated to begin Summer 2020
 - Webster Hill South main to Crest Wood, the Town is planning on bike lanes in both directions
 - Colin Gillespie asked how long it takes to complete a round of paving
 - Duane Martin, one week of milling and two weeks of paving
 - iv. The Trout Brook Trail , Farmington to Duffield (Phases 5-6), still held up by DEEP. due to flood controls and maintenance agreement for the property with the State. The Town has tentative agreement for the frequency of mowing. The proposal will be presented to the Town Council, then the State, then CROG for approval of grant funding. Phase 3 is Park Rd to Jackson Ave is under design. 13 property owners are impacted. The Phase 3 plans are at the MDC to review the catch basins.
 - v. Reports from other departments, Todd Dumais had reported to Sandy that comments provided by the commission on the POCD decade plan were largely included, and P&Z has the final approval.
 - vi. Marc Blanchard, regarding bike share, Hartford must reach agreement first before West Hartford and smaller Towns review arrangements.
 - vii. Ethan Frankel brought up the importance of connecting surrounding Towns with bike lanes.
 - viii. New Park Avenue updates: DOT is reviewing Grant applications, the Town has two grants OPM (through DOT) and CROG , but both grant sources need to ensure funds are spent appropriately and used for specific purposes.
 - i. Duane Martin fielded a question and responded, the Town does restripe lanes without paving projects on the agenda.
 - ix. Ben Wenograd, council committee is considering adopting a transit oriented development overlay for the vicinity of the 2 CTfastrak stations. They are considering adopting a temporary moratorium on development until the new zoning goes into place.
 - x. Paul Hogan asked if the Towns financial constraints are the cause of road conditions deteriorating, and the lessening of linear miles of road being repaved.
 - i. Duane Martin mentioned funding constraints: repave goal is 12 miles per year, but able to achieve about 7.5/year with available funding. Number of miles per year has declined since 2015. Cost of asphalt is a factor. Program performance Metrics and Indicators was referenced by Paul Hogan
2. Update on 4th Grade Bike Education Program Discussion with Paul Vicinus and Lisa Daly. Updates provided by Daniel Johnson, Sandy Fry, and Scott Franklin
- i. They were interested in learning from other municipalities South Windsor and Simsbury
 - ii. Importance of during the school curriculum was stressed by our representatives at the meeting
 - iii. Alyssa Norwood is recommending building a committee to help move the Town along.

- i. Including PE teachers, commission members, Bike West Hartford Inc, and other supporters. Colin, Rob dexter, Laurie Silverman and Kevin feely expressed interest in this. Other should contact the commission if you would like to be involved.
- 3. Bike Safety Course – permanent installation
 - i. Friends of Fernridge park will present to board
 - ii. Daniel Johnson will provide a proposal for the next meeting
- 4. New Business
 - i. Ben Wenograd provided update for Pride West Hartford in Blue Back 2020, this may present an opportunity for bike valet parking.
 - ii. May 2nd Bike West Hartford with BiciCo and the West Hartford Library will have a bike tune up.
 - iii. Friday April 3rd, Clean Transportation in CT symposium titled "What Can Your Cities Do?"
- 5. Reports
 - i. Jill Morawski subcommittee reported on Bike Parking and shared a map with the commission of areas that need more parking. Two locations needing bike parking were identified: Park Road between Quaker and Prospect and New Britain avenue between Mayflower and Quaker.
 - i. The subcommittee recommends that the town purchase the racks and work with business owners to get them installed.
 - ii. The map will be sent to the broader email list for feedback, then response will be shared with the Town and business associations.
 - ii. Update from Bike West Hartford, Inc
 - i. Ed Pawlak will be in touch with Abe from sustainable CT to submit the budget for Center Streets. The plan is to begin crowdsourcing in the Spring.
 - iii. Update from Cycling Without Age
 - i. No activity during the Winter months and open invitation to train as a Pilot.

Meeting Adjourned .

Meeting adjourned 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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